Daily Report

Latin America

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Aldana Speaks at Information Ministers Meeting

FL2709020790 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Report by Ariel Arramendi Villafane]

[Text] Twenty-five ministers and 56 other delegates, full members of the Nonaligned Movement, in a plenary meeting today, began the work of the third meeting of information ministers of the movement. After the participants of the plenary listened and approved the reports submitted by outgoing Chairwoman (Victoria Chirepo) from Zimbabwe and those presented by the delegates of Cyprus, Angola, and Indonesia regarding broadcast organizations, news agency pools, and the project for the use of [word indistinct] technology, Carlos Aldana, chief of the Cuban delegation and chairman of this third meeting, reflected on the final declaration draft which I want to share with the "Exclusivo" [name of newscast] listeners.

[Begin Aldana recording] A strategy of erosion has been seen lately in our countries' representation and the suitability of those organizations and, at the same time, emphasis has been placed on an expanded territory and the supranational nature of large multinational corporations.

Therefore, it is fundamental that we contribute to the strengthening of our exchange with the United Nations as an irreplaceable instrument to regulate international relations so that they are not left to the will of inflexible governments and financial power groups that seek to establish a new world order in detriment of our most authentic interests.

Distinguished delegates, it is a fact that in spite of the difficulties mentioned, today we can report praiseworthy progress made by the movement. Without exception, they are a result of cooperation, systematic exchange, and unity of goals which have given a new voice and an active presence of our countries in the fight against existing inequalities, and in favor of development, coexistence, and peace.

Experience shows that these goals have never been reached with handouts and concessions but through the concerted effort and united work of the movement. [end recording]

Cuba

Havana Justifies Vetoing Air Embargo of Iraq

FL2609132890 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1041 GMT 26 Sep 90

["Our Opinion" commentary read by Orlando Contreras on the "Haciendo Radio" program]

[Text] U.S. television networks and news agencies this morning gave a lot of coverage to yesterday's vote at the UN Security Council approving—with the sole abstention of our country—the air embargo against Iraq.

I think it would be appropriate to point out a few things regarding this matter:

First, I should reiterate that in accordance with the UN Charter and the accepted principles of international law, the territorial sovereignty and integrity of a nation are inviolable. The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on 2 August is a clear violation of that principle.

However, it also seems evident that the reaction of the international community is one of giving preference to one situation over another by not taking action in other similar cases. It is morally intolerable for a nation that has violated the territorial sovereignty and integrity of other nations, that has resorted to assassination attempts against foreign leaders, and has bombed the residence of one of those leaders, to now make itself the custodian of the same principles it has trampled upon.

The huge U.S. military deployment in the Arab Persian Gulf is motivated by geopolitical and economic reasons, not by the principles that their leaders claim to be safeguarding. International law also specifies that the civilian population of a nation cannot be subjected to blockades that subdue them with hunger or deprive them of medicine.

Regarding the air embargo, it is appropriate to recall the obvious: A commercial airplane is not a ship that can be boarded or detained en route and any action of this nature could compromise the security and lives of innocent people.

The avalanche of U.S. propaganda undoubtedly helps create worldwide opinions that are basically controlled by U.S. multinational firms. However, this does not change the essence of international behavior which, up until now, has been characterized, among other things, by a double standard.

Alarcon Explains Vote

FL2609145890 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] The UN Security Council has approved the air and naval blockade of Iraq because of its invasion and occupation of Kuwait and Baghdad's disregard for six other Security Council resolutions. Approval was by a majority of 14 votes in favor and one against, which was Cuba's. Ambassador Ricardo Alarcon, the Cuban representative, said that our country does not approve of Iraq's conduct and thinks that its forces should withdraw from Kuwait, but at the same time we reject any use of force in an attempt to resolve problems and conflicts.

Alarcon noted that the Security Council should respect the principles of the UN Charter, which it has not done in the past with regard to the cases of Palestine, Lebanon, apartheid, and others. The Cuban ambassador to the United Nations added: My delegation believes that the text of the resolution on the air and naval blockade of Iraq is a continuation of militaristic thinking and therefore cannot be accepted.

'Aspects of Cooperation' Discussed With Libyans

LD2609223490 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] The brother secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy and Foreign trade and chairman of the Libyan Arab delegation taking part in the 8th session of the Libyan-Arab-Cuban joint committee's meetings, conferred in Havana this morning with the Cuban minister of foreign trade relations. They examined, during this meeting, aspects of cooperation between the two friendly countries as well as a number of issues of mutual interest. The Cuban minister of foreign trade relations stressed at this meeting the deepness of the relations between the two friendly peoples, the Libyan-Arab and the Cuban, and the two leaderships and their firm stance against imperialism and world Zionism.

Malmierca, Khatami Share Views on Gulf Crisis

LD2609165190 Tehran IRNA in English 1443 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Tehran, Sep. 26, IRNA—In his meeting with Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami in Havana Tuesday, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli called for the exit of foreign forces from the Persian Gulf and the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

He said Havana has condemned Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and on the other hand Cuba cannot connive at such developments as the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf.

Malmierca called on non-aligned countries to pool their efforts for the ouster of 'imperialist' forces from the Persian Gulf and for restoring independence and full sovereignty to Kuwait.

He also expressed pleasure over the peaceful moves by Iran and Iraq for resolving their differences.

Hoj. Khatami said in response that Iran as victim of aggression in the past condemns Iraq's invasion of Kuwait which has resulted in the unprecedent presence of U.S. forces in the region.

He said the solution to the Persian Gulf problem lies in Iraq's unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait and the pull-out from the region of all foreign troops.

Hoj. Khatami is in Havana for the current assembly of information ministers of the Non-aligned Movement.

New Rationing, Distribution Measures Announced

FL2609141290 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Sep 90

[GRANMA article: "Information to the Populace" published 26 September]

[Text] For more than a year, Comrade Fidel has been making public warnings about the consequences that could arise in our country as a result of the events that were rapidly unfolding in East Europe and the complex situation confronting the USSR, our traditional and major suppliers—especially the latter—of a whole range of basic products for three decades.

At this point, in the midst of the extraordinary efforts we had begun to make in several development programs, the leadership of the revolutionary government made one of its priorities the exhaustive analysis of whatever effects could be anticipated from these circumstances. It was a matter of preparing ourselves to confront the most difficult situations, reducing to a minimum the restrictions that might be necessary to apply to the populace, and at the same time continuing each of the development plans that were underway so as not to compromise our country's future and survival. These issues were examined week after week in the meetings of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers.

Many studies have been made, alternatives analyzed, and resources invested precisely at a time when we did not have many. Different adverse factors have been taken into account to retain what is essential and avoid, or at least postpone as long as possible, detriment to the populace. When almost a month ago we reported on the set of measures it had become necessary to adopt as a result of the deficit in Soviet fuel deliveries, we announced that the effects on supplies were not limited only to petroleum and petroleum derivatives, although these were among the most serious because of their impact on all activities; that the events that were occurring were beginning to transform the life of the country from a normal situation to a special period in peacetime; and that in each specific situation the appropriate decisions would be made and publicized.

At that time, it was directed that a study be made on the distribution of food and industrial products and sales on the parallel market, based on several considerations:

—the scarcity of products and the principle of their equitable distribution;

—the decision that each time a product is lacking on the normal distribution network but is extensively available on the parallel market, it must be taken off the latter;

—the parallel market cannot operate in a special period except with reference to a limited number of products when possible;

—reducing as much as possible the conditions that favor hoarding, parasitism, and illegal street vending, when antisocial individuals have access to unrestricted items that are currently in short supply;

—the acceptance among the people of distribution on the rationing network in recent days of some canned products and others from the parallel market.

One week later, the analysis of two more points was added to this study to make it a global policy. These were the distribution of household electrical appliances on the basis of their availability in the context of the previously adopted measure concerning electricity conservation, and the system of sales of products to the residents of Havana City that has been pending since the end of July.

Once the study was finished, the proposal presented by the Ministry of Domestic Trade was approved at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers held on 19 September; it also took into account the opinions of other entities, organizations, and the opinions of the populace. It can be summed up in the following points:

Distribution of food and industrial products and the sales system:

The rationing of food products will take two forms: rationed sales, which is the current form and includes 35 basic products—rice, oils, meat, soap, detergent, milk, etc—which are guaranteed in a fixed amount; and controlled sales, which includes 28 categories that previously were sold on the parallel market or were unrestricted. In this last case, 12 had already been incorporated into this system, including canned meat and fish, mayonnaise, spices, canned fruit, saltines, catsup, razor blades, etc. In the future, this will include 16 more products: pasta products, soy sauce, cream cheese, fresh and frozen fish, guava paste, salt pork, ham, bacon, sausage, etc.

In the system of controlled sales, new commitments have not been established concerning quotas or intervals, but rather whenever products are available, they will be distributed to the consumers at that store, noting this in the ration books. This will be done in rotation when there is not enough at one time for all the households at that unit. Current prices will remain the same.

The parallel market for food products will continue, eliminating those that have become part of the controlled system and pork roasts, since the latter will go to the industrial production of derivatives which are put at the disposal of the populace through various channels.

The Centro supermarket will continue to sell about 237 products; 115 will be eliminated, being rationed, controlled, or in the category of fresh pork. These include the specialties of the food and fishing industries, agriculture, etc. The Unico and Marianao markets in the network of small markets in Havana City and the other provinces will continue with a limited supply of products such as live fowl, crabs, rice, coffee, salt, clam soup, etc., depending on availability.

All essential industrial products will be rationed by the ration book. This covers 242 items, 181 more than were rationed before these agreements came into effect. These include footwear, clothing, fabrics, household items, hygiene and personal use items, furniture, toys, etc. In the case of those that were sold in the parallel market, they will be moved to the rationing system at the current prices there. Coupons and sections have been prepared for the categories that will become part of this form of sale, with the optional ones in the categories of greatest scarcity.

As an exception, some clothing and other very high-priced items which are in the commercial network with very low demand or in sizes with low demand or models from previous years, as well as other luxury categories, will remain on the parallel market for industrial products. A small group of nonessential products will continue to be freely sold, such as dish towels, locally made wooden toys, etc.

System of sales by group in Havana City:

The system of sales by group will be resumed on 1 October in Havana City. This had been used in the capital until 1984 and is in effect in the rest of the country with the exception of Havana and Santiago de Cuba, which are in the process of implementing it.This is because of the difficulties currently arising in supplies of industrial products, and although this method of organizing sales will not provide a total answer to the demand for consumer goods, it will promote fairer distribution. Wholesale distribution will also be organized so that when a cycle begins in footwear, textiles, etc., it will reach all groups before repeating the cycle, even when availability in many categories is insufficient to cover all consumers. The current rationed sale network, the parallel market, and unrestricted sales will be used to take advantage of existing capacity.

The populace will be organized into six groups, and each of these into four subgroups. Two groups will make purchases each week, one beginning on Mondays and one on Thursdays, which will mean that each group can do so every 21 days. The priority for working women will continue; they may make their purchases on the first day for every group, and it will be arranged through the wholesale network that these days be supplied as well as possible to make this priority more effective. The ration books have been adjusted to apply this system immediately.

Distribution and sale of household appliances: In view of the restrictions imposed because of the fuel deficit, it has become necessary to adopt a number of measures to reduce the sale of electrical appliances, since it would be contradictory to call for a reduction in the consumption of electrical power on the one hand, while on the other increasing the number of electrical appliances in the possession of the people, thereby increasing the use of power by these means. Although it will undoubtedly create some concern, we believe that the time is right to do this, considering the fact that in our country there is a high level of ownership of such appliances.

The decisions were based on the physical inventory in stock in the country, the imports estimated as of December of this year, the cost of using each appliance, the determination to comply with commitments made through assignments made on the basis of merit, special emulations, energy consumption levels, etc.

Refrigerators: All those for which bonuses have been issued under the CTC [Cuban Workers Federation] and Sugar Harvest Plans will be sold. Those which remain available in December 1990 will be reserved for placement in family doctor offices, children's centers, and other social institutions. None of these appliances will be distributed in 1991.

Black and white television sets: There will be 22,800 (Krin) Model 234 sets available as of December of this year. They will be sold as replacements under the CTC Plan, but only in exchange for (Krin) Model 218. This specification is determined by the need to remove from circulation several thousand of the more than 1.173 million Model 218's that exist in the country, because of their high consumption of power, 180 watts, as opposed to the newer model that uses only 40 watts.

Color television sets: Given the present stock levels and the number estimated to be available up to the end of the year, as well as the possibilities for assembly next year with the equipment in the possession of the national industry, efforts will be made in two directions:

1. All bonuses in possession of the population or organizations that are about to turn them over to the persons to whom they were assigned in assemblies, emulations, etc., will not be honored for a maximum of two weeks, since sales will be suspended from today until then. Those who have acquired this right will have the option, if they own a black and white television set, to sell it in establishments that will be set up for this purpose—hence, the halt in sales for two weeks, so that this mechanism can be organized—at a price of 150 pesos to be applied to the purchase of the new set. This offer, which people are urged to accept, has the double purpose of removing several thousand appliances of this type from use—they consume more than twice the amount of power used by color television sets—and of making use of their parts, which are currently very scarce, for repairs as needed.

2. Once all the pending bonuses have been taken care of, it is estimated that over 20,000 sets will remain available. They will be assigned to the CTC for distribution in assemblies next year. However, for this second option,

ownership of a black-and-white television will be an indispensable requirement, because the sets will be sold only as replacements.

Air Conditioners: In the present conditions, given the urgent need to save energy, the high energy consumption level of these appliances has made it necessary to rule out their sale, even in cases in which they have been assigned. Some 1,000 of them remain pending. In compensation, those who present air conditioner bonuses will be offered a Chinese fan at the price of those which are given to winners of sugar harvest emulation: 120 pesos.

Fans: Some 98,000 will be available at the end of the year, with some 18,000 remaining to be sold to honor the bonuses distributed by the CTC. This amount will be sold, and the others will be held in reserve for social use, as no more will be purchased for the time being.

Washing Machines: Several thousand are currently in stock. It has been decided that they will be held in reserve for priority social needs.

Radios, Record Players, and Recorders: The fact that several thousand of these appliances are in stock, that they consume very little energy, and that it is impossible to store them for a long period of time indicates that it is advisable to sell them by means of the industrial products book, head of household coupon, with holders being allowed to choose one of the three annually.

Mixers: Assignments made under the Sugar Harvest Incentive Plan will be honored.

Irons: Those in stock, some 13,700, will be offered for sale only to newly married couples.

Electric Razors: In view of their low energy consumption levels, and the low demand, they will continue to be sold freely.

Coffee makers and pressure cookers: Although these are not truly electrical appliances, they do contribute to the saving of energy. Therefore, they will be incorporated into the regulated sale system at the prices of that system.

Finally, in this segment, priority will be given whenever possible to the repair and maintenance of household appliances, especially refrigerators, television sets, radios, and irons. To this end, an effort will be made to guarantee the importing of spare parts and raw material, as well as to increase the nation's production of those spare parts, primarily if one considers the fact that future policy for importing this kind of equipment will depend on the financial resources available to us, the import priorities adopted by the Executive Committee, and the agreements reached with the USSR, our main supplier in this area. The immediate perspective for 1991, however, is that it will be possible to purchase only a very few of these appliances, in view of all the foregoing.

It should be noted, finally, that even when the most serious efforts are made to guarantee the basic food and industrial products at the levels and in the manner outlined, under the strictly applied principle of ensuring the greatest equity and causing the least possible detriment to the people, the complex situation in which we are operating, in which there is uncertainty regarding both the volume and the timeframe of delivery of a wide range of supplies that we are due to receive, and while at the same time we do not have access to sufficient foreign exchange to speedily cope with all the areas of deficiency, we are obliged to reiterate that we must be prepared to face up to situations that are even more difficult than this.

Electrical Union Reports Fuel Savings in Sep

FL2609150790 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Maximum electricity demand dropped by 15 percent from 1 to 20 September in comparison to the same period last year. The National Electrical Union reported today in a news conference that more than 30,000 metric tons of fuel have been saved through the reduction in electricity consumption in the first 20 days of September. These results reflect the concern of the residential sector, which saves between 80,000 and 90,000 kilowatt/hours every day.

Likewise, the large-scale state sector has shifted demand to outside peak hours, which has favored generation by more efficient machines, so that right now 14 grams less of oil are being used for every kilowatt/hour produced. The National Electrical Union congratulated the public for this response, and urged state consumers of less than 50 kilowatts—that is, restaurants and lesser services—to follow the examples mentioned above.

Chinese Communists' Workers Delegation Arrives

FL2709012590 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] A Chinese Communist Party's workers delegation arrived in our country this afternoon to pay an exchange visit. The Chinese group is headed by Gu Yunfei, deputy secretary of the Work Committee for Party Organs and member of the Central Discipline Inspection Commission of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee. The delegation is composed of five other members. They were welcomed at the Jose Marti Airport by Tania Maceira, deputy chief of the Foreign Relations Department of the Central Committee, and Jose Luis Robaina, specialist.

Chen Jiuchang, PRC ambassador to our country, was also present. The Chinese delegation will remain in Cuba until 6 October. During their stay in our fatherland, the members of the delegation will tour places of economic and social interest. The Chinese guests' visit coincides with the date in which the 30 years of relations between our two countries and the 41st anniversary of the founding of the PRC are marked.

Bahamas

Tourism Ministry Delegation Departs for Cuba

FL2609223290 Bridgetown CANA in English 2219 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, Sept 26, CANA—A Bahamas Ministry of Tourism delegation left for Cuba on Wednesday on a three-day tourism fact-finding mission.

The opposition Free National Movement (FNM) turned down an invitation from the minister of tourism, Deputy Prime Minister Sir Clement Maynard, to send a representative because it objects to closer ties with the nearby communist state.

The delegation, including members of the press, left Nassau aboard a Cubana flight. They will meet with the minister of tourism and other Cuban officials, travel agents, tour operators, and hoteliers, visit the Varadero resort and tour the old city of Havana.

Bermuda

Two Senators Resign From Upper House

FL2609210990 Bridgetown CANA in English 1914 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Hamilton, Bermuda, Sept 26, CANA—Two Bermuda Government senators have resigned from the Upper House, political sources said on Wednesday. Senators Charles Marshall and Lynda Milligan-Whyte notified Premier Sir John Swan of their resignations more than a month ago, the sources said, but there has been no public announcement of any apparent moves to fill the empty seats before the Senate reconvenes on October 26.

In January, government Senator Reginald Minors stepped down and was replaced by former Sports Minister Maxwell Burgess, who lost his seat in the House of Assembly at the last general election.

Marshall, 51, head of a telecommunications firm and one of the island's top soccer referees, has been in the Senate for almost five years. He said, "It's a very frustrating job."

Mrs. Milligan-Whyte, a 46-year-old lawyer, who has been in the Senate for nearly five years, in tendering her resignation cited the need to concentrate on her law practice but did not rule out another bid to win a seat in the House of Assembly, the sources reported. She failed in Southampton East at the last election.

Before her reported resignation, the Upper House consisted of two females and nine male senators, who earn an annual salary of 16,000 dollars (U.S.) plus bonuses.

Dominican Republic

Strike Observation Prompts Domestic Violence

FL2609171090 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1622 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Report by Adriano Fajardo from Cotui, Sanchez Ramirez Province]

[Text] Dozens of homemade bombs hurled at different sites; activities that have been paralyzed; another commercial establishment burned; street demonstrations; militarization of some areas; police raids in various areas; several people arrested—this is the panorama resulting from the 72-hour strike called by the Popular Organizations Collective, which is being observed completely in the municipalities and communities of Sanchez Ramirez Province.

Detonations of homemade bombs have not ceased since early last night in all the communities of the province. Bombs have been thrown at public offices and commercial establishments. However, no property damage or casualties have been reported as a result of the bombings.

One of the bombs hit the Public Works Office in Cotui, located on Mella Street. Meanwhile, transportation, education, and banking activities have been reduced to a minimum in response to the call from the Popular Organizations Collective.

The strike is being totally observed in the communities of Cotui, Fantino, Las Guaranas, (La Hamaca), Angelina, Maimon, (Sebicos), La Cueva, and other cities, where only a few people and hundreds of burning tires are all that can be seen on the streets.

Similarly, unidentified individuals hurled an incendiary bomb at the Esquina Famosa company, located at 44 Mella Street, which was partially damaged. Yesterday, unidentified people set fire to the Joselito Supermarket, owned by businessman Ludovino Vega, and later poured gasoline over a dump truck that was driving through the commercial area of Cotui, completely destroying it.

Similarly, unidentified persons took a 12-gauge shotgun from a private guard who was on duty at the Banco Universal building. The guard was identified as Roque Bislak. He was on duty at the Banco Universal branch on a local commercial street.

In addition, a truck owned by the Mora Estate, which was loaded with chickens, was stoned by unidentified people in Angelina. The truck driver said this was done in conjunction with an attempt to rob him, which was prevented by members of the Police and the Army, who came to the site and fired shots into the air.

Joint National Police and Army patrols carrying automatic weapons have been posted at entry and exit roads from the communities of Sanchez Ramirez Province to forestall incidents. Similarly, provincial judicial and

police authorities have staged several raids in residential areas in search of the organizers of the strike.

Meanwhile, several people have been arrested in Cotui and Fantino as part of an investigation into the burning of the supermarket and dump truck and the store that was set on fire this morning. Although the police have not released the names of those arrested, it has been reported that those detained include community leader Daniel Nunez Nonarco, who is being intensely interrogated by the police.

Haiti

State Council Member Criticizes Carter Statements

FL2609165790 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Excerpts] A member of the State Council, attorney Ernst Malebranche, has termed as intolerable interference former American President Jimmy Carter's statements on the former right hand of Jean-Claude Duvalier, Dr. Roger Lafontant, and his presence in the country. On Saturday [22 Sep], the second day of a 48-hour visit to Haiti, Carter deplored the presence of the former Duvalierist official in the country and publicly expressed his wishes that Lafontant should depart. According to the former American president, Venezuela and the Dominican Republic are ready to receive Roger Lafontant. The legal authorities have an unserved arrest warrant for this former interior and national defense minister of Jean-Claude and former strongman in charge of the Tontons Macoutes civil militia. Dr. Lafontant recently distributed posters of himself in Port-au-Prince and in the provinces, introducing himself as the national reconciliation apostle. In a Port-au-Prince newspaper he called for a neo-Duvalierist convention to nominate a unique candidate for the forthcoming elections.

While touring in the southeast area during the weekend, attorney Ernst Malebranche denounced what he called an interference by Jimmy Carter in Haiti's affairs. [passage omitted]

Members of the State Council, attorney Ernst Malebranche, Dr. Michel Lominy, Paul Yves Joseph, representative of the south, and Dr. Newton Jeudi, representative of the southeast within the State Council, met with several sectors of the population in Jacmel on Sunday, 23 September. [passage omitted].

The members said that they were not here to suggest solutions or alternatives to the crisis. They just wanted to voice their complaints to the base areas. The State Council announced that the members would not resign. The State Council wants elections but not the same type as the 17 January 1988 elections. Everyone must take part in these elections and the people must feel safe before these elections can be held. The members continued, saying that they would not be influenced by any foreign embassies, even if those embassies were lighting up fires in the conflict between Mrs. Trouillot and themselves.[passage omitted].

Regarding the statements concerning Dr. Roger Lafontant that Jimmy Carter made in Gonaives on Saturday, 22 September, attorney Malebranche, as well as the other members of the State Council, agree that white people should not come to dictate to them what to do, or who could or could not be a candidate in the country.

[Begin Malebranche recording] We see that there are many people from abroad that come to dictate to us here in Haiti. We can deal personally with Roger Lafontant and Williams Regala. It is up to the Haitians to solve such a matter. It is not for a foreigner to tell us what to do or what not to do. It is an intolerable interference in the country's matters. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Six Parties Unite, Work for Free Elections

FL2609180390 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Excerpts] Six political parties with dissimilar opinions on the electoral process have formed an organization which will supervise and monitor the structuring of the elections to help prevent the occurrence of election fraud. The parties involved so far include: the National Congress of Democratic Movements [Conacom], National Patriotic Movement of 28 November [MNP-28], Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti [MIDH], National Agricultural and Industrial Party [PAIN], Haitian Christian Democratic Party [PDCH], and the National Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti [Panpra].

A constitutive act they published states that their organization, "Haitian Association for Free Elections" [AHPEL], is an independent entity with no partisan bias, for the promotion of free, honest and democratic elections. This association will begin work immediately, and invites the participation of all other organizations that wish to contribute their efforts to ensure that free, honest, well-organized, and democratic elections can be realized in Haiti. Among the functions of AHPEL will be the recruitment of individuals to watch and count the votes on polling days and to use all other resources at their disposal to establish organized control and an independent counting of votes. [passage omitted]

AHPEL consists of a number of political parties with different points of view on polling matters. Conacom and PAIN do not have the same political aims as MNP-28, MIDH, PDCH, and Panpra, which urge that elections be held as soon as possible to expedite the transition. Mr. Amilcar Jean-Bernadin, who is a member of Conacom and a counselor in AHPEL, says that these six political parties joined together to save the country, to be done with the democratic transition, and to see that elections are held, whatever the time may be, so that the democratic transition can come to an end. [passage omitted].

AHPEL consists of four organs: the general assembly, the administration council, the executive committee and the general coordinating board. The general assembly is the highest authority of AHPEL. It decides the major positions of AHPEL. The administration council, another authoritative body, consists of a number of people elected by the general assembly in conformity with the by-laws of AHPEL. It is charged with applying the decisions of the general assembly and determining the means AHPEL will use to realize its objectives.

AHPEL has started with six political parties, but all the other associations and organizations that would like to join and collaborate so that free, honest and democratic elections can be held in Haiti are welcome.

Conacom Denies 'Rumors' of Inter-Party Alliances

FL2609193090 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] The national office of the secretary of the National Congress of Democratic Movements [Conacom] denies any political affiliation with the National Alliance for Democracy and Progress [ANDP, made up of the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti, the National Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti, and the National Patriotic Movement of 28 November]; the National Agricultural and Industrial Party; or the Haitian Christian Democratic Party, contrary to rumor.

At the invitation of the National Democratic Institute at the beginning of July, Conacom sent two members to a party-targeted seminar on techniques for controlling elections. After this seminar, the participants agreed to create a committee comprised of several political parties to scrutinize the results of the elections. This initiative is in accordance with the strategy of Conacom to ensure the integrity of the next elections. This initiative, however, does not imply any political alliance among the parties belonging to the committee.

Conacom continues to insist on security regarding the elections and is distinguishable from other parties, who want elections even without security.

Montserrat

Radio Antilles To Resume Broadcasts by 31 Oct

FL2609213590 Bridgetown CANA in English 2114 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Castries, St. Lucia, Sept 26, CANA—Montserrat-based Radio Antilles, which was knocked off the air by Hurricane Hugo last year, is expected to resume broadcasts by October 31, Organisation of the Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Director-General Dr. Vaughn Lewis announced.

Dr. Lewis said the station, bought by the OECS from the West German Government last year, had already started testing a 20,000 kilowatt transmitter.

Hurricane Hugo destroyed the station's 200,000 kilowatt transmitter, as well as other facilities in Plymouth and the south of the island.

"We need to ensure that (the station) becomes commercially viable in the long run," Dr. Lewis said, noting the station will operate at minimum power for at least one year. "...It will take time to install completely new transmitters which will bring it back to its original and even more powerful form," he added.

Dr. Lewis said an agreement had been reached with a number of international media organisations, including the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and Deutsche Welle of West Germany, to relay some of their programmes heard on shortwave.

Dr. Lewis said the OECS was also seeking assistance from the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the Commonwealth Secretariat for Management and Technical Assistance.

El Salvador

FMLN's Diaz on Socialist Bloc, Proclamation

PA2709003690 Paris AFP in Spanish 0941 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Sep (AFP)—Salvadoran guerrilla commander Nidia Diaz said in Mexico today that the Salvadoran guerrillas sympathize with the political opening in the European socialist bloc and with the change in government in Nicaragua, but this does not mean they will adopt those formulas.

"We believe the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist bloc are seeking their own formulas for change, and we will have to seek our own formulas," Diaz told AFP in an interview.

"One of our formulas is the San Salvador proclamation—released by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) on 24 September—in which the goal is a new Salvadoran society composed of a broad social and political spectrum," Diaz stressed.

Commander Diaz, a member of the negotiating commission and the FMLN's Political Diplomatic Commission, was referring to the platform of struggle issued by the FMLN to demand the country's total demilitarization and the exemplary punishment of high-ranking army members for violating human rights.

Referring to the FMLN's demand for the trial and punishment of military personnel who are responsible for crimes, massacres, disappearances, and committing torture, Diaz did not rule out their eligibility for amnesty "if the nation so demands."

"Before forgiving, however, one must first find out who was guilty of what crime," the rebel commander added.

Regarding the last round of talks between the Salvadoran Government and the guerrillas, which ended without progress on 18 September, Diaz said the dialogue will progress as the concerted efforts of the Salvadoran political take hold and as Washington reduces its economic and military aid to the government of President Alfredo Cristiani.

Repatriated, Displaced Citizens Report Attacks

PA2709012390 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0445 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] San Salvador, 25 Sep (EFE)—Repatriated Salvadorans charged today that the Army has continued to bomb and strafe their communities. The Army action has resulted in killings, injuries, and arrests or detentions of nearly 150 people in the first eight months of the year.

Mirtala Lopez, spokeswoman for the Christian Committee for Displaced Salvadorans (Cripdes) said that seven people, including five minors, were "killed" by the Army last May during a bomb attack against presumed guerrilla redoubts in a community of displaced people in Chalatenango Department.

Eighteen bomb attacks by the Salvadoran Air Force have resulted in 27 people being wounded in various areas inhabited by displaced people in the Departments of Cuscatlan, La Libertad, La Paz, and Chalatenango, in the middle and northern parts of the country, she added.

The Cripdes spokeswoman said that two elderly men were among the 27 wounded. The two were "seriously" injured on 22 September during an attack on a village in Chalatenango Department, where the guerrillas were allegedly staying.

Lopez, who was arrested by army troops last year and accused of cooperating with the guerrillas, said that the Army has conducted 32 military operations in which 129 people were briefly detained and 25 "beaten because they gave no information on the guerrillas."

She said three houses were also "completely destroyed" and 35 "seriously damaged" during bomb attacks by the Air Force.

Lopez added that Cripdes, which claims to assist communities of displaced people in seven Salvadoran departments, will submit a report on the human rights violations to Pastor Ridruejo, special rapporteur of the UN Human Rights Commission.

Ridruejo will arrive in El Salvador in early October to meet with unofficial, official, and religious humanitarian organizations, and he will draft a report on the human rights situation in the country for submission to the United Nations.

The Salvadoran Government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) signed an agreement in which they pledged to respect civilian rights on 26 July.

According to various humanitarian organizations, however, this agreement has not been implemented and the violations against fundamental rights continue.

Honduras

Foreign Debt Over Three Billion Dollars in Jun

PA2609153990 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 21 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] Tegucigalpa—Official figures indicate that, as of 30 June, the overall Honduran foreign debt was $3.301 billion, of which 43 percent is multilateral debt and nine percent is private debt.

The foreign public debt amounts to $3.0102 billion or 91.19 percent of the total, the multilateral debt amounts to $1.4195 billion, and the bilateral debt amounts to $993.7 million.

As for the multilateral debt, Honduras owes $628.5 million to the Inter-American Development Bank, $377.4 million to the World Bank, $291.9 million to the Central American Bank of Economic Integration [BCIE], $76.5 million to the International Development Association (IDA), $22 million to OPEC, and $12.3 million to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Also, as part of its multilateral debt, Honduras owes $4.4 million to the Latin American Bank for Exports, $3.3 million to the Inter-American Savings and Loan Bank (BIAPE), and $3.2 million to the IMF.

Treasury Minister Benjamin Villanueva has stated that most of the multilateral debt was refinanced with a stopgap loan recently obtained by the government. He added that the debt with the BCIE and other organizations is currently being refinanced.

As for the bilateral debt, which is shared by the 13 member countries of the Paris Club and regional countries, Honduras owes $551.2 million to the United States, $191.7 million to Japan, $68.4 million to France, $45.2 million to the FRG, $30.8 million to Great Britain, $21.5 million to Italy, $28.3 million to Canada, $11 million to Switzerland, $15.6 million to Spain, $12.3 million to The Netherlands, $14.4 million to Denmark, $2.3 million to Israel, and $1 million to Belgium.

Honduras also holds pending debts with regional countries. It owes $33.4 million to Costa Rica, $91.4 million to Venezuela, $32.2 million to Brazil, $30.2 million to Argentina, $14.6 million to Guatemala, $49.1 million to Mexico, $2.5 million to Taiwan, and $2.5 million to other countries for a grand total of $250.9 million.

As for private loans, Japan has been the largest supplier. Our country owes $111.2 million to Japan, $48.4 million to France, $28.3 million to Italy, $19.1 million to Brazil, $3.6 million to The Netherlands, $3.2 million to Argentina, $2.1 million to the FRG, $2.8 million to Colombia, $1.2 million to the United States, and $300,000 to Panama for a grand total of $343.6 million.

The debt with commercial banks amounts to $232.4 million and private debt amounts to $290.8 million.

If we convert all this to the interbank exchange rate of 4.3 lempiras to the dollar, Honduras' overall foreign debt as of 30 June is $14.194 billion lempiras.

Villanueva said that "thanks to its success" in negotiations with the Paris Club last week, the government will defer payment of $178.3 million in principle and interest payments in arrears since of August.

He added that with the refinancing achieved with the Paris Club member countries, "our country will defer paying $114.9 million in principle and interest for the balance of the year and the first half of the next year."

The official added that the refinancing of the bilateral debt is "relief" that will allow the government to obtain fresh resources over the short term.

Nicaragua

Government Returns Property to 'Legitimate Owners'

PA2609232490 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Sep 90 pp 1, 12

[Report by Maria Elena Palacios]

[Text] President Violeta Chamorro received today a report on the return of the first 16 industrial companies to their legitimate owners in Managua. These companies had been confiscated by the previous government.

The Confiscations Revision Commission, headed by Attorney General Dr. Duilio Baltodano, with members William Frech, Pedro Gutierrez, and Alejandro Solorzano, presented the report this morning.

President Chamorro said that the restitution is lawful and serves the interests of justice. She added that Somozist government properties "belong to the people, therefore, they will not be returned." Chamorro also emphasized that Decree 11-90 on property restitution will not adversely affect the goods, property, or farms of peasants or any other poor people.

Dr. Baltodano said that the restitutions are lawful and their implementation is the fulfillment of a promise to the people by President Chamorro.

The industrial companies that were returned to their legitimate owners are: Jaboneria Prego, Embotelladora Milca, S.A., Inversiones y Raices, S.A., Distribuidora de Automoviles y Accesorios, Distribuidora Datsun, Fabrica Kikatex, Camas Luna, Industrias Luna, and Cereales de Centroamerica (Cersa).

The other companies are: International Wire Corporation de Centroamerica (Intercasa), Plasticos Records, Eskimo, Industrias El Caracol, Gallo y Villa, S.A., Industrias Grano de Oro, Cosmeticos Centro America (Irsa), and Quimica Borden.

Dr. Baltodano said that after assessing the companies, the commission concluded that their confiscations were unfair, arbitrary, and a violation of human rights.

He said that the purpose of returning these properties is not to adversly affect anyone, but to implement justice, and even if the property of socially needy small plot owners is claimed, they will not be affected.

Dr. Baltodano said restitution was made a priority to ensure that the owners would help promote economic development and create jobs, adding that the commission will continue to assess other cases mentioned in some 3,000 claims.

Commission member Alejandro Solorzano said that he will propose the creation of a special fund to help the many poor people arriving in Managua to file their claims.

Some of the companies discovered the outcome of their cases yesterday, while others were called to the Attorney General's Office today.

The attorney general read the resolution on Irsa, which was returned to Douglas Reyes, who said that he is ready to begin operations.

Fatima Lacayo de Saenz and Sofia Lacayo received the resolution on Kikatex, which is owned by Manuel and Argentina Lacayo. The women said that the company has fulfilled all the requirements for operations, and they hope to have more than 100 distributors.

According to the owners interviewed by LA PRENSA, their companies have deteriorated and are suffering from low productivity. Some owners, after visiting their companies, said that they were well received by the employees.

Deputy Education Ministers Deny Teacher Layoffs

PA2609195190 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1330 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Report on news conference by Deputy Education Ministers Humberto Veliz and Hortencia Rivas with unidentified reporters; place and date not given]

[Text] There is no suspension of classes today, 26 September. Nicaraguan teachers have not requested permission from the Education Ministry [MED] to be away from their jobs today to attend a political rally. Besides, there is no need to hold such an event or to protest against the MED, because there is no plan to dismiss teachers. On the contrary, since 25 April, the government has added 609 new teaching jobs in the various regions of the country, including the Atlantic Coast.

ANDEN, the pro-Sandinist National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers, presented a list of demands to Education Minister Sofonias Cisneros, which should have been negotiated after the independence day festivities, but thus far the members of ANDEN have not bothered to attend the negotiations, yet they are busy participating in all kinds of rallies. They are protesting against the government of national salvation for reasons that the pro-Sandinist National Workers Front has been inventing.

Nicaraguan teachers have to become aware of this and have examined the irresponsible attitudes of their leaders, who have now decided to become politicians. Teachers are smart, and they know better than to let themselves be manipulated by other people's interests.

These and other issues were discussed by Deputy Education Ministers Humberto Veliz and Hortencia Rivas with a group of reporters yesterday. Following are some of the deputy education minister's statements:

[Begin recording] [Veliz] Why do we think the teachers are conducting this campaign? We believe they are conducting this campaign against MED, which includes protests of nonexistent dismissals and expulsions and a massive demonstration of 10,000 teachers, for political reasons. This campaign is groundless and seeks merely to create an atmosphere of unrest and to justify the march announced for 27 September. As I just told you, this campaign is based on lies.

We have been truly surprised to learn that, in an inconsiderate manner, ANDEN Secretary General Mario Quintana, who has always favored dialogue and timely communication, has spread the lie that we are planning to dismiss 10,000 teachers without even asking us about our plans. We are also surprised at the lack of professionalism and journalistic ethics of the Sandinist media, including BARRICADA and EL NUEVO DIARIO. These newspapers have been playing with [word indistinct] their big headlines without even calling us on the phone or coming here to ask what our plans are or which teachers have been dismissed. We challenge BARRICADA and EL NUEVO DIARIO, the Sandinist media in general, and ANDEN Secretary General Quintana to present one single bit of serious evidence on our plans to dismiss teachers. We want them to present one single bit of evidence with the names of teachers, principals, or students who have been either dismissed or expelled as a result of the 14 September incidents.

[Rivas] There is absolutely no plan to dismiss any teacher, because we do not have a surplus of teachers. Teachers are doing much-needed and vital work for the country. They are educating our new generation. Since 25 April, we have created 609 new teaching jobs. We do not have a program to reduce our number of teachers. On the contrary, we are increasing it. We cannot leave our schools without teachers. One of the characteristics of a democratic government is that it educates its population. The basic component of democracy is education. We are not interested in building garrisons. We are interested in building new houses. Many Nicaraguans, who were living in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and the United States are returning to our country. They have children of school age, and we have to educate those children and the regular school population, which grows every year.

As Dr. Velez said, [words indistinct] has a political motive. They want to prepare the teachers psychologically so that, frightened by the threat of unemployment, they will all participate in tomorrow's demonstration [words indistinct] thinking that they will be dismissed. If teachers, however, [words indistinct] will realize that they [not further identified] are not doing anything. Those who are being dismissed are people who are not qualified or who are doing nothing, because in many offices we have people who are doing absolutely nothing but collect their paychecks on payday. Those people

could be [word indistinct] in other sectors. There is also an emergency fund to build and repair schools and hospitals and people who have knowledge in this area could work in the construction area. The government has no intention of leaving people completely unemployed. The government will pay six months' wages and will also find occupations in construction for all those who are dismissed.

[Veliz] MED is also studying creative ways to face the education budget cutbacks next year. One way to obtain more resources for MED and, therefore, lessen the effect of our main and regional MED personnel cutbacks would be to charge a token fee for the textbooks that will be distributed en masse before the beginning of the next school year.

These are all preliminary ideas that have not yet been approved yet. These measures are still being discussed and include the possibility of building schools in communities or municipalities that can share the expenses of such construction with MED. We are going to discuss these ideas with the general education community. We are open to suggestions, and we are making serious efforts to find ways to increase our revenues and lower our expenses without having to resort to bureaucratic personnel cutbacks. It is important to stress that if we are forced to conduct personnel cutbacks, the cutbacks will affect bureaucratic, administrative, and office personnel, but not teachers. [end recording]

Godoy: Defeated Sandinists Promote Unrest

PA2609164990 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1545 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Interview with Vice President Virgilio Godoy by unidentified reporters at Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport in Managua—live]

[Text] [Reporter] Dr. Godoy, what can you tell us about what the Sandinists have been planning over the past few days?

[Godoy] Well, what we have been saying all along is that those who were defeated in February have not accepted their defeat. They are intent on promoting unrest in the country. That is why they have been adopting the attitude we have observed since May. During the month of October they reportedly plan to repeat their destructive deeds of July.

[Reporter] Are the police ready to carry out their constitutional duty?

[Godoy] It is their obligation, and we hope that they will forcefully carry out their obligation to maintain order.

[Reporter] Dr. Godoy, is the Presidency left in your hands?

[Godoy] The Presidency is left to the Constitution, and I think that is enough.

[Reporter] But have you not assumed the Presidency?

[Godoy] As far as I know, it is not necessary, so I will not assume the Presidency?

[Reporter] Then you are the acting president, in other words?

[Godoy] The Constitution has its precepts, and they are subject to each individual's interpretation.

Ortega Denies FSLN Seeks Government Overthrow

PA2609135890 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2156 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Managua, 25 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—Former Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega today denied that the Sandinists are inciting the people to "overthrow" the government of President Violeta de Chamorro, and he said that they are only defending the "basic rights" of the workers, who are affected by the economic crisis.

In statements to Radio Sandino, Ortega also reiterated the order issued by the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) on 23 September supporting "coherent" actions to defend the interests of the workers.

"The workers' actions are not intended to overthrow the government, but to make it stop committing abuses against the people," Ortega stressed.

The National Workers Front (FNT), which is linked to the Sandinists, has called on its members to join a "civil disobedience" drive and protest marches against the government's economic policy on 1 October.

Meanwhile, teachers will stage a demonstration on 26 September to protest the alleged order to dismiss more than 10,000 teachers as part of the government's "major surgery" economic plan, which includes the dismissal of more than 25,000 state workers.

Ortega also rejected any participation in the second meeting of the "economic and social dialogue," convened by Chamorro and scheduled to be held on 4-5 October, because the FSLN "will not endorse measures against the people."

Among the measures designed to halt the hyperinflation, the government announced restrictions on bank credits, the removal from circulation of the "old cordoba," and its replacement by the "gold cordoba," on a par with the U.S. dollar.

Commentator Calls for Two-Sided Dialogue

PA2609162990 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Commentary by station director Jose Esteban Quezada Gamez]

[Text] The national dialogue has everyone confused. We are confused simply because in chapter one of the talks

nothing has been achieved that would give the impression of important progress toward an agreement. Rather, what can be seen is a strong polarization, which calls for stronger action. All indications are that the workers, farmers, and craftsmen organized in cooperatives, and all the sectors that require economic or financial support to work, continue to demand more serious and responsible treatment from the government.

There was an agreement of sorts, if one could call it that, among members of groups linked to the government, who sat down to talk at the Olof Palme Convention Center and agreed on their position. Almost all of those attending, however, simply recited claim after claim after claim. Under this shower of claims, the other party now finds itself in an uncomfortable position. The present situation in the dialogue is not yet under control, and there can be no marriage—politically, socially, or economically speaking—if there is only one partner. For a national agreement to exist, the government's position and the opposition's position must be presented and the discussion has to center on political issues, putting aside the economic and social situations that limit the dialogue. New chapters, therefore, must come before this poor country explodes.

Demonstrators Outside Assembly; Situation Calm

PA2609180590 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1736 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] This is Radio Nicaragua at today's session of the National Assembly. We must tell our listeners that a number of demonstrators are in the area around the National Assembly. They cannot enter the Assembly because a riot police unit is preventing them from doing so. The atmosphere is calm, however, because a delegation of the demonstrators has been permitted to enter the National Assembly.

Argentina

Cavallo Government Views Gulf Deployment

PY2609225290 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 25 Sep 90 pp 1, 11

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN)—[Passage omitted] Last night Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo delivered a speech before the United Nations 45th General Assembly, where he explained Argentina's position in the Gulf crisis in the framework of the country's interest in "participating in the new world order."

Cavallo made clear that Argentina did not decide sending troops to participate in the US-led blockade speculating with the possible economic benefits which could come from taking the side of the West in the conflict. [sentence as published] "What we did was to comply with the UN Charter and the recommendation issued by the Security Council," he pointed out.

The minister agreed with other speakers at the international forum in demanding "the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait" and expressed the Argentine government's condemnation of the invasion. "We are against those who propose aggression and terrorism to fulfill their aims."

Cavallo defended Argentina's acting on the Security Council's resolution "because it is the only guarantee weak countries have for the defence of their interests and the only security the international community has for the preservation of world peace." [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, Menem's decision continued generating contradictory comments from Justicialist and opposition leaders yesterday. The most surprising statement was by Lower House Speaker Alberto Pierri (Justicialist-Buenos Aires), who considered that the military mission was "a tourist trip."

This afternoon the Senate will discuss two bills questioning Menem's decision to order the troops to sail for the Gulf without giving Congress any role in the issue.

Two previous sessions called by the opposition to debate this question failed due to lack of a quorum, as the Justicialist legislators refused to come down to the room. The two initiatives present a subtle verbal difference in their criticism to the government's disregard for the role of Congress.

While the justicialists "lament" the fact that President Menem has not called for their approval of the troop deployment, the Radical document "condemns" the presidential move. [passage omitted]

Wheat Sales to Iran Continue; Talks Under Way

PY2609182090 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1538 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Sep (DYN)—Jose Ramon Saez Garcia, president of the Cereals Market, today said that Argentina "will continue to supply Iran with wheat as it has always done," but the country "cannot foresee what may later occur between Iran and Iraq" in relation to an eventual triangular operation to supply cereal to the blockaded country.

Saez Garcia said that the "traditional" agreement by which the Iranian Government purchases "a million and a half tons" of Argentine wheat is currently being renegotiated. He said that despite the difficulties in reaching an agreement—since the Iranians "are offering very little money"—he does not doubt that the supply of wheat will be resumed.

In an interview with Radio America, Saez Garcia said: "The price of wheat is so low that it would not be absurd to think that for the first time it may be used as cattle forage in Argentina, something that has never happened." He added: "The exchange rate does not favor producers" because "it has been static for some months, while the rest of the price components have been shaken" by several increases.

Analyzing the reasons behind the low international wheat prices, Saez Garcia said that the situation is a result "mainly of the subsidy policies of the EEC and the United States" and "excess wheat production in the world." Saez Garcia believes that this situation will hardly change "if the subsidy policy conditions of developed countries are not reviewed within the GATT talks."

As an example he said: "If we look at futures market prices, we have been selling last harvest's surplus wheat at $120 and $130 [units not specified], while prices for January are being calculated at $68 and $69."

Regarding the possible effects of the Persian Gulf conflict on the Cereals Market, Saez Garcia said: "I think it could influence it." He added: "I do not know if it will be a positive or negative effect" due to the high price of oil, which will affect transportation.

Thatcher Sends Note Welcoming Menem's Decision

PY2709014490 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2339 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Sep (TELAM)—Today the Argentine Foreign Ministry released a note sent by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to Argentine President Carlos Menem. In her note, Thatcher conveyed her "most cordial welcome" to President Menem's decision to send troops to the Persian Gulf.

The message was addressed to the Argentine president and was received by the Argentine Foreign Ministry. Among other things, Thatcher stated: "Your decision will further strengthen the international community's decision to prevent the Iraqi aggression from succeeding." She added: "I give it my most cordial welcome."

Menem Criticizes Actions of Political Class

PY2609225090 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 25 Sep 90 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN)—President Carlos Menem yesterday blasted the Argentine political class, stressing that "during the last decades they have issued lie after lie and cheated the Argentine people." Menem stated that "our politicians and union leaders must understand that our country was seventh in importance in the world 35 years ago, but now it has come down to number 84. What they want is for us to implement the policies which drove us so low in the world."

The President defended the changes undertaken by his government in various contacts with the press during the day and forecast that inflation will be only one digit this month. "The impulse of inflation has given in lately and in the last two weeks it was only 1.7 percent," he pointed out.

"I'm changing the history of this country with new, modern ideas," Menem underlined. He denied that all the people who agree with his modernization ideas were supporters of his personal style of leadership.

The head of state anticipated that during his visit to Venezuela and the United States he will hold a meeting with United States President George Bush, where he will present a demand for US protectionist policies on agricultural products to cease.

In related developments, both Menem and Vice-President Eduardo Duhalde ruled out the possibility of depriving the Group of Eight maverick Peronist deputies of their party membership, as pro-Menem leader Luis Barrionuevo had demanded last week.

Menem said he did not favour the expulsion of any party leader but made it clear that he would respect any decision taken on the issue by the Justicialist National Council, presided by his brother Eduardo.

In turn, Duhalde admitted the existence of a "serious conflict" between the Group of Eight and the mainstream party leadership but said that the expulsion of the former was "very unlikely."

Group of Eight member Juan Pablo Cafiero stressed on the other hand that the group was not discussing the idea of leaving the Justicialist Party while his colleague Luis Brunati wondered "what moral authority do these leaders who represent the interests of the historical enemies of Peronism and the Argentine people have to decide whether we should stay in the party or not."

As for the Radicals, the internal dispute continued yesterday as the clash between supporters of ex-President Raul Alfonsin and those of Cordoba Governor Eduardo Angeloz gathered steam with the statements of former presidential chief-of-staff Carlos Becerra blasting Angeloz for his critical comments on Alfonsin.

Angeloz stated in a meeting with leaders of his sector in Cordoba that Alfonsin had to leave his house "in a car with dark window panes," to which Becerra replied by casting doubts as to the legitimacy of Angeloz' birth. Leaders of the former Radical presidential candidate's sector apologized for his statements, which they claimed were "taken out of context," while President Menem commented that he was "sad and sorry that intelligent, educated politicians would resort to such language in their internal disputes."

Border Control Agreement Signed With Bolivia

PY2709033090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Salta, 26 Sep (TELAM)—Argentina and Bolivia have decided "to increase their mutual cooperation" to fight drug trafficking, to solve mutual problems such as the trafficking of chemicals used to manufacture cocaine, and to "coordinate legislation."

This is established in the "Agreement of Santa Cruz de la Sierra," which was signed by Argentine Interior Minister Julio Mera Figueroa and his Bolivian counterpart Guillermo Capobianco Rivera. The document establishes that the appropriate organizations will meet again in the same city next November.

The agreement also calls for the creation of a technical commission—to be presided over by the Argentine institutional affairs under secretary and the Bolivian migration and foreign affairs under secretary—to analyze a joint action program to deal with the problems of immigrants from the two countries.

The agreement also determines the need for a census, registration, and documentation project and a program of national registration of Bolivian affairs to solve the problem of people without documents. The two countries will also implement concrete measures to normalize traffic between the border provinces and speed up proceedings at border custom offices.

This information was released here by Salta's press relations secretariat, which stressed that Mera Figueroa visited the Santa Cruz international fair "Expocruz 90" over the weekend where he was awarded the "Andres Ibanez" medal, a distinction granted to Bolivian friends.

Government Issues Ultimatum on Airline Purchase

PY2609224890 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 Sep 90 p 1

[Text] (DYN-NA)—The Government last night issued a terse ultimatum to the Iberia-Cielos del Sur consortium to make the 130- million-dollar cash down-payment for the acquisition of Aerolineas Argentinas (AR) within 72 hours or face the cancellation of the sale.

A telegram sent to the purchasing consortium signed by Public Works Minister Roberto Dromi, threatened that the government would consider the "bid withdrawn" unless the first cash installment is paid "within 72 hours upon receipt of the notice."

Dromi had announced the government decision earlier in the day before attending a meeting of the Bicameral Privatization Committee. He stated then that President Carlos Menem had instructed him to "request" the consortium to make the payment or else "the sale will be annulled."

A statement released last night by the Cielos del Sur group, however, affirmed that the "130-million-dollar down-payment for the state airline will be made when technically feasible." The text continued "given the complexities of the operation, the process is still incomplete."

The cash down-payment has fallen due since late August, but a compromise was reached on September 12 when the government agreed to accept an irrevocable letter of credit drawn on the New York branch of the Banco Nacion as alternative payment.

The government was to be permitted to withdraw the funds once the debt waivers had been obtained from foreign creditor banks as stipulated in the sale conditions.

Bolivia

Drug Traffickers Wound U.S. Agent in Clash

PY2709010890 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 27 Sep 90

[Text] It has been officially confirmed that U.S. DEA [Drug Enforcement Administration] agents and drug traffickers engaged in a shoot-out in Chapare, Cochabamba.

Reports from Cochabamba District confirm that one DEA agent sustained submachine-gun bullet wounds during a clash between members of the special forces for the struggle against drug trafficking and a group of drug traffickers, which occurred at some point along the Isinuta River.

According to the official report, one drug trafficker—identified only as Seso Loco—died during the clash. The clash took place not far from Isinuta Town, near Eteramasama. Members of the forces in charge of fighting drug trafficking regard this area as a huge cocaine factory.

Paraguayan Minister Ends Visit, Signs Accord

PY2709015090 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 20 Sep Section II p 5

[Text] Santa Cruz—Bolivia and Paraguay noted the high level of their bilateral relations after signing a 12-point joint declaration and two agreements, one referring to cultural exchange and the other eliminating the need for visas for diplomatic passports.

Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde and his Paraguayan counterpart Alexis Frutos stated that the agreements represent an unprecedented rapprochement in Bolivian-Paraguayan relations since the Chaco war.

The two countries agreed to promote bilateral trade, especially through the Parana-Paraguay waterway. Bolivia thanked Paraguay for granting it free access to Villeta Port and mentioned the possibility of making investments to improve the port's infrastructure.

Frutos arrived in Bolivia in response to a special invitation extended to him and, upon returning to Paraguay, said he was satisfied with the agreements that were signed and the welcome he was given. He said he was impressed by Santa Cruz City, which he found very similar to Asuncion.

As a result of this meeting, the Bolivian-Paraguayan Mixed Commission will meet next March for the fourth consecutive time in a place yet to be determined.

Iturralde stated that during that meeting the details of the agreements that were signed will be established in order to implement joint projects to benefit the development of both nations.

Drug Traffickers Use Chile as Smuggling Route

PY2709005690 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 19 Sep 90 p 7

[Excerpts] Oruro, 18 Sep (PRESENCIA)—General Lucio Anez Ribera, Retired, commander of the Special Antinarcotics Force, FELCN, said here today that drug trafficking organizations are using Chile, where drugs are transshipped, as one of the main routes to Europe and Asia to meet the demand in European and Asian countries.

Gen. Anez pointed out: Undoubtedly, drug trafficking organizations are using Chile as one of their main routes, going through many altiplano areas, in order to transport drugs by sea both to Europe and Asia, especially Japan, where drugs sell for a high price.

Gen. Anez admitted that the Oruro altiplano area serves for illegally transporting drugs and laundering dollars to introduce luxury goods and cars into the country.

Asked about the possibility of laundering Colombian capital from drug-trafficking organizations in some national financial entities, Gen. Anez said: "Unfortunately, we do not have any concrete data allowing us to take action against some institutions or persons that are engaged in money laundering activities."

Gen. Anez said these activities will continue to be investigated in order to confirm the information that is available, information that could supply reliable clues on the laundering of capital. [passage omitted]

Regarding the arms issue, Gen. Anez explained that $4.5 million in aid will be received, international agreements to confront illegal drug trafficking activities are gradually being met, and arms and equipment have recently been received for Umopar [Area Police Patrol Unit] personnel.

Gen. Anez announced that a promise has been made to increase $6.5 million in financial support for the struggle against drug trafficking, including alternative development.

In conclusion, Gen. Anez reported about recent operations in Beni Department. He added that two cocaine hydrochloride processing laboratories were destroyed in Alto de La Paz, and 27 kg of cocaine hydrochloride were seized.

In assessing drug seizures carried out by the antinarcotics force, Gen. Anez said that nine and one-half tons of cocaine hydrochloride have been seized so far in 1990. He noted the seizure of nine small airplanes, which have been transferred to the FAB [Bolivian Air Force] Command; 30 vehicles, which have been delivered to public entities; and 80 tons of chemical processors. [passage omitted]

Minister Comments on Government Investments Law

PY2709024690 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 19 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] The presidency of the Republic yesterday enacted the new Investments Law approved by Congress. On disclosing the law to the media yesterday, Gustavo Fernandez, minister of the presidency, asserted that it is a very important legal tool for the country.

In Fernandez' opinion, the Investments Law is one of the main instruments for the structural changes the government is making in the country's economy.

Fernandez added: "It is very likely that at the end of its term in office, people will realize that this government tackled the task of creating an institutional and legal framework for the new Bolivian State with determination and vigor." He then said that within this context, the government deems it necessary to inform people about the approval and promulgation of the Investments Law.

The law, which is divided into eight chapters and 23 articles, encourages and guarantees national and foreign investments in order to promote the country's socioeconomic growth and development through a normative system.

In its main articles, the Investments Law establishes that the state will not endorse nor guarantee domestic or foreign credit contracts signed by private individuals or private, national, or foreign corporations.

In the chapter on joint venture contracts, the law admits the possibility of joint investments by national and foreign investors in the form of joint ventures or other forms.

Foreign individuals or corporations that sign joint ventures will abide by Bolivian laws, obtain their legal status in Bolivia, and fulfill other requirements established by national laws.

According to Chapter Six of the Investments Law, industrial free zones designed to promote exports, free trade zones or warehouses, as well as a temporary storage system for exportable goods authorized by the executive branch will receive preferential treatment and will be exempted from paying tariffs and customs duties.

Drug Prosecutor, Policemen Charged With Abuses

PY2709015690 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 19 Sep 90 p 6

[Excerpt] According to an order issued by the Interior Ministry, a special narcotics prosecutor has been removed, two police officers will be subjected to a disciplinary board trial, and a thorough investigation will be conducted into the involvement of Mrs. Daysi Wende [not further identified] in the detention—described as abduction—and attempted deportation of Margot Bussiere, a Canadian citizen.

The Interior Ministry's order makes known that the removal of attorney Camacho from the post of special narcotics prosecutor and of Lieutenant Colonel Nicolas Anaya and Major Gonzalo Barba has been ordered. Lt. Col. Anaya and Maj. Barba are former Special Antinarcotics Force [FELCN] officials who will be subjected to a disciplinary board trial. They have been charged with the crimes of usurpation of duties, abuse of authority, and betrayal of confidence, crimes for which they are liable according to police disciplinary rules and regulations.

Both officials, who no longer belong to the Special Antinarcotics Force, usurped the exercise of those duties in an attempt to give the appearance of a legal deportation in order to detain Canadian citizen Margot Bussiere and force her to leave the country using a ticket paid for by Mrs. Daysi Wende.

In remarks to the press, Interior Ministry Under Secretary Raul Loayza said that the trial of the two police officers by a disciplinary board will be based on a report drawn up by the FELCN, a report that will be submitted to the disciplinary board by FELCN Commander General Lucio Anez Ribera. [passage omitted]

Brazil

Collor Explains Deactivation of Bomb Program

PY2709011290 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] President Fernando Collor de Mello has told Paulo Henrique Amorim in New York how he deactivated the Brazilian atomic bomb:

[Begin Amorim recording] In a luncheon at the Plaza Hotel, President Collor told me that, as soon as he took office, he ordered deactivation of the program for construction of a Brazilian atomic bomb. The program was known as the Solimoes Program. It consisted of four

parts, and each one of them was named after the tributaries of the Solimoes River. One of the parts consisted of nuclear tests that would have been conducted in the hole dug at Cachimbo Hill, in the south of Para State; a few days ago the president ordered that it be filled in.

President Collor is now asking Secretary Jose Goldemberg to draft a new program that will place all nuclear activity in Brazil under the control of a civilian organization. [end recording]

Former Navy Chief on Nuclear Program

PY2609123090 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Sep 90 p A-5

[Interview with Admiral Maximiano da Fonseca, Navy minister from 1979 to 1984, by Regina Eleuterio; place and date not given]

[Text] [Eleuterio] You were Navy minister in 1979 when the Parallel Nuclear Program was implemented. How did that program begin?

[Da Fonseca] We have to go back to 1975 when Frigate Captain Othon Pinheiro da Silva was sent to the United States for a course in nuclear energy. In 1978 he proposed an independent research program to the Naval Engineering Board (DEN), without the participation of Nuclebras [Brazilian Nuclear Corporations, Inc.], to master the nuclear fuel cycle and to then develop a nuclear propulsion system for submarines. The report was approved by Rear Admiral Mario Cesar Flores (then chief of the Navy Staff) and by the Navy minister. In June 1979 he began contacts toward the development of the ultracentrifuge method.

[Eleuterio] But wasn't an agreement reached with the Aeronautics Ministry, which was carrying out research in that area?

[Da Fonseca] There was no agreement, but there was a study. Delio (Delio Jardim de Matos, of the Aeronautics Ministry) and I asked President Figueiredo for a division of the enrichment project. The Navy was given the ultracentrifuge method, and Aeronautics the laser system.

[Eleuterio] Where did the resources come from?

[Da Fonseca] I approved the release of 5 million cruzeiros in 1979 and 15 million cruzeiros the following year. We were doing everything straight; everything was included in the research item. We only failed to specify the project. The CNEN [National Nuclear Energy Commission] refused to give any financial support, but Rex Nazareth assumed its presidency in 1982, and he facilitated the development of the research. In December 1981, with only seven engineers working on the project—with the support of other scientists—the first ultracentrifuge was built. In 1982 we carried out the first successful enrichment test. Five years later, the president announced that the uranium cycle had been mastered.

[Eleuterio] But why the secrecy? Did it prevent difficulties?

[Da Fonseca] The secrecy in the nuclear program was instituted not to hide it from public opinion but rather because of foreign pressures from countries that wanted Brazil to continue to be dependent on nuclear technology. The talk about an atomic bomb was to prevent access to that technology. Regarding any difficulties, the first was in obtaining resources and the second was foreign opposition.

[Eleuterio] From which countries did the pressure come?

[Da Fonseca] I would rather not mention names. I only want to say how regrettable it is that world powers monopolize research on the atomic, hydrogen, cobalt, and neutron bombs and prevent others from carrying out the same research.

[Eleuterio] Brazil has not signed the nuclear nonproliferation treaty. Doesn't that make getting access to technology difficult?

[Da Fonseca] I think Brazil did the right thing in not signing the treaty. I think it should not sign it. Why should I promise not to do something if others can? If everybody else signs, I will too, but not under the current terms. External pressure had a fantastic result: The ultracentrifuge method has been fully mastered by Brazil. We managed to master the technology despite external pressure.

[Eleuterio] But is that technology enough to produce the bomb...?

[Da Fonseca] The process of making a bomb is no longer a secret but more a matter of just having the necessary ingredients. We can make one, but what for? It is foolish. The purpose is not to manufacture a bomb but rather to master the technology. The Navy's goal is to have a nuclear-propelled submarine. That is not a weapon.

[Eleuterio] What is your personal opinion on manufacturing an atomic bomb?

[Da Fonseca] I would even make one. [sentence as published] I could make a bomb, set it off, and say: I am not going to do anything more because it is foolish. Argentina, the United States, and the CNEN [National Commission for Nuclear Energy] could come and inspect our facilities. I am not going to manufacture the bomb because I do not want to, but why do I need to prove that I can make it? Against whom do I need to use it? This would only bring retaliations against us.

[Eleuterio] Did the external pressure actually help Brazil to master the nuclear technology?

[Da Fonseca] That was our greatest technological achievement. The technology for uranium enrichment is something we have already mastered. It is only a matter of quantities now; the more centrifuges we have the more we can produce. We have the technology to produce more equipment, and all we need now is the money.

[Eleuterio] How many centrifuges does the Navy already have in Aramar?

[Da Fonseca] I cannot tell you, not because it is a military secret but because there are plans to increase the number of centrifuges. It is only a secret because of foreign pressure.

[Eleuterio] You mentioned the money problem. Do you think it will be easier to obtain resources under Collor's administration?

[Da Fonseca] As far as I know, the so-called parallel program will become the official program, and the main nuclear program will become the parallel program. Some $300 to $400 million was spent in Resende on the uranium enrichment process through the jet-nozzle [preceding two words in English] system, and nothing is being done. It makes no sense. If we have found a solution that has already been tested and verified and we have the equipment to enrich uranium, why waste time with an experimental project? It has not even been proved whether the jet-nozzle is marketable.

[Eleuterio] In this case, what do you think about the Brazil-FRG agreement?

[Da Fonseca] Brazil could not get access to the technology by buying a nuclear plant; hence the agreement. But the agreement would not have been signed had more attention been paid to the parallel program and had people had more confidence in it. It was probably justified at that time, but it lost its raison d'etre after we mastered the technology.

[Eleuterio] What do you have to say about the rumors on an agreement with Iraq?

[Da Fonseca] I know nothing about such an agreement. I never knew about it. There is nothing unusual about a team working over there. A sovereign country hired Brazilian experts who are free to work where they are paid best. The government did not sent them there.

Cuba Requests Aid for Offshore Oil Exploration

PY2609155590 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Cuba wants Brazil to explore for oil on its continental shelf. This request was made by Ernesto Melendez, minister president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation, during a conversation with Brazilian Infrastructure Minister Ozires Silva.

Silva will have to ask Braspetro [Petrobras International, Inc.] to perform the necessary preliminary tests to give a technical answer to the Cuban Government.

Official Against Extraditing Stroessner's Son

PY2709031690 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] The attorney general's office is against the extradition of Gustavo Adolfo Stroessner, which has been requested by the Paraguayan Government. The opinion of the attorney general's office, which was signed by Deputy Attorney General (Marden Costa Pinto), was sent to the Federal Supreme Court (STF) late this afternoon. At the STF, Minister Celso de Mello was appointed to investigate the case.

Gustavo Adolfo Stroessner is the son of former Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner. He has been held at the Federal Police precinct here in Brasilia, while waiting for the STF to try his case.

Chile

Aylwin Rules Out Possibility of Coup d'Etat

PY2609211490 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Report from Quito by Radio Chilena Press Director German Gamonal]

[Text] A news conference held by President Aylwin and his Ecuadoran counterpart, Rodrigo Borja, has just ended. President Aylwin said there is no possibility of a coup d'etat in Chile. He said that if a commander in chief tries to engage in such an adventure, neither the government nor congressmen from the opposition sector will support him.

The news conference ended just two minutes ago. These are exclusive remarks for Radio Chilena, which we are reporting before the information is to be released by other mass media.

[Begin Aylwin recording] As long as the commanders in chief of the Armed Forces fulfill their duties and act in keeping with the institutional rules that prohibit them from meddling in political affairs, I do not think the democratic system is at risk. I think that if any commander tries to violate this rule, he will not have the support of the armed institutions, and he will be repudiated by all sectors, including government supporters and opposition congressmen. [end recording]

Among other things, Aylwin said: We respect the Argentine Government's decision to send troops to the Persian Gulf, but President Borja and I have not considered this possibility.

Cuba Suspends Aid for Armed Struggle

PY2609162890 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] The Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] has reported that the Cuban regime has suspended its support for the so-called armed struggle in Chile on the

grounds that it is no longer justified under the democratic government headed by President Aylwin.

This statement was made by Jose Cademartori, PCCh Central Committee member, in response to a question on whether recent ultra-leftist activities prevented Cuba from restoring relations with Chile.

[Begin Cademartori recording] Through several spokesmen, including Fidel Castro himself and the ministers who were invited for Salvador Allende's funeral, the Cuban Government has clearly and categorically stated that it had supported the struggle against Pinochet's dictatorship by all means, including the armed struggle. This is true. But they also categorically said that they did not support any kind of armed struggle against a democratic regime such as that of Aylwin's administration. [end recording]

Cademartori said that in his opinion the ultra-leftist sector is carrying out its activities without Cuban support. He added that the PCCh hopes the Chilean Government will positively evaluate this situation and restore relations with Cuba, as it did with other Latin American countries.

Cademartori also said that President Aylwin's tour of foreign countries is taking place at a significant moment in Chile's effort to fully rejoin the international community.

Carabineros Arrest Director of Magazine

PY2609225890 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Today at 1030, personnel from the 19th Carabineros Precinct arrested Juan Pablo Cardenas, director of ANALISIS magazine, who is wanted by the Santiago military court. This information was released by ANALISIS general editor Maria Eugenia Camus. Camus said the policemen put up a show [preceding word in English], adding that Cardenas had been led to believe his children were in an accident in San Vicente de Tagua-Tagua.

[Begin Camus recording] Juan Pablo Cardenas' sons go to a school in San Vicente de Tagua-Tagua everyday. The news alarmed Cardenas, who immediately tried to communicate with San Vicente de Tagua-Tagua. While he was trying to get through, two civilians went to his office and told him that he had to accompany them because he was under arrest. At that time we realized that the individual who brought the message was an officer or Carabineros collaborator, who was in charge of setting up that trick to arrest our director. As is known, Cardenas has been at the magazine office every day awaiting the arrest warrant issued by the military court.

The Carabineros who arrested Cardenas identified themselves as Lieutenant Castillo and Lieutenant Gonzalez. [end recording]

Cardenas is being sued for alleged offense to the Army. After being summoned to make declarations before the 6th Military Court, Cardenas refused to appear.

Colombia

President's Security Adviser Views Role

PA2709012690 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Sep 90 p 3A

[Interview with Rafael Pardo Rueda, new presidential adviser for national security, by Luis Canon Moreno; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Canon] What is the specific duty of the presidential adviser for national security?

[Pardo] To advise the president, taking into account national security issues. To participate, following the president's instructions, in the meetings of the Superior National Defense Council and the Superior Police Council. All of this with one goal in mind: to return peace and calm to the nation.

[Canon] You will be working with the military. Do you not feel like a fish out of water?

[Pardo] No. I believe there is a good atmosphere in the military organization where the coordination and advisory activities are to be carried out. Besides, several active military officers with a noteworthy capacity for analysis are going to join me in this office.

[Canon] Given the reactivation of the Defense Council, the Police Council, and on top of that, the Security Council, will the decisionmaking be blocked by this bureacratic multiplication of institutions?

[Pardo] No, because the members are almost the same. The duties of these institutions are going to be reviewed and the decisionmaking simplified.

[Canon] Does that mean that with the reactivation of the Superior Defense Council, the Security Council will disappear?

[Pardo] This will be assessed, but no decision has been made yet. What is certain is that the Superior Defense Council will outline the strategy to be implemented in response to the all-around problem of violence that prevails.

[Canon] What does "all-around" mean?

[Pardo] Besides presenting solutions to the paramount problems—guerrillas, narcotraffickers, terrorism—other types of violent actions that also cause significant unrest in the nation will be looked into.

[Canon] Like which ones?

[Pardo] Such as kidnapping. The amount so far this year is higher than the total amount of kidnappings in 1989, while the rate of homicides has decreased. This is what we have to work on.

[Canon] What are you going to do?

[Pardo] To start with, there must be an awareness that the government cannot be indifferent in the face of a phenomenon of this magnitude. This is the main point. The Superior Defense Council will implement interinstitutional strategies, searching for greater cooperation on the part of the community and a greater presence of the authorities.

[Canon] What other specific work patterns will be followed?

[Pardo] Well, there are national violence officers. But there are also regional patterns of violence. The violence in El Cesar is different from the urban violence in Medellin. This is why we must develop—without forgetting the national officers—a sort of regionalization of the solutions, a task that implies the participation of the forces of each region. Also, something which is very important, plans must be outlined to maintain the areas of peace which we now have in the nation: the coffee-growing region, a large part of the Llanos Orientales, Boyaca...

[Canon] And what is the role of the Superior Police Council?

[Pardo] It is from there that the security issue is going to be dealt with. There is also the rapprochement of the community with the police force through campaigns to raise morale and protect health and the environment. Besides that, we are trying to establish a police force that prevents rather than represses.

[Canon] You have already made peace with the M-19 [19 April Movement]. Now you are going to face the violence of the ELN [Army of National Liberation]. What do you think should be done on this war front?

[Pardo] It is very simple to think that there is only a situation of war or of peace. What we are trying to establish is an overall policy. This is why this task has so many aspects: strong action on the part of the public force, the presence of the state, alternatives for those who abandon criminal life....

[Canon] Yes, but the ELN is not giving any signs of wanting to change its war stance.

[Pardo] If the ELN does not change, the government will have to exercise full authority. However, maybe they will understand that the option of an armed struggle is futile. There is a general national consensus against violence, and the votes in favor of the M-19 and of the Constituent Assembly have demonstrated this. At the present time, the guerrilla movement is a true setback for the political development of the civilized leftists and deprives it of political opportunities.

[Canon] Why?

[Pardo] For example, when talking about the petroleum policy, the language of dynamite attacks cannot be used. This takes away its legitimacy and puts off those who, from a democratic point of view, reject this policy. Today there is not one issue in the political scene that the rebels cannot debate through the Colombian democratic system.

[Canon] Taking a look at narcoterrorism, do you think that the decree which takes into account confession and nonextradition will allow Pablo Escobar to surrender?

[Pardo] The decree is not addressed to any one person. It is part of an overall strategy that intends to strengthen the Colombian justice system so that extradition is not the main or the sole mechanism.

[Canon] But do you think that those capos are going to surrender?

[Pardo] There is a possibility that they will surrender. The state has offered—within the legal framework—an alternative. But I repeat once more, the decree is not addressed to any one person.

[Canon] And what if they do not surrender and go back to narcoterrorism?

[Pardo] Look, policies cannot be formulated beforehand based on hypothesis. The president has said that the evaluation of the decree will be made as things develop. It is still too soon to assess its results.

Former Senator Meets With ELN Leader

PA2609125490 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Sep 90

[Telephone interview with former Conservative Senator Alvaro Leyva Duran by unidentified announcer; place not given—live]

[Text] [Announcer] Ten minutes ago RCN [Radio Cadena Nacional] reported that on 23 September former Senator Alvaro Leyva Duran and Doctor Miguel Uribe—Diana Turbay's husband—met with Father Manuel Perez, top ELN [Army of National Liberation] commander. We tracked down Alvaro Leyva Duran and have him on the telephone to find out what happened. Good morning, Dr. Leyva.

[Leyva] Good morning.

[Announcer] Did you really meet with Father Perez yesterday?

[Leyva] About eight days ago when you called, I found myself in a rather difficult position. I denied the truth, thinking that sometimes it is better to keep a tight lid on things. I do not know where you got your information, but it is true. We were there yesterday. Miguel Uribe and I did meet with ELN leader Father Perez.

[Announcer] What did the ELN commander say to you? Did he confirm anything about what is being investigated in Colombia, that is, about the kidnapping of the news companions from the "Cripton," "Hoy por Hoy," and "El Tiempo" newscasts?

[Leyva] He reiterated that he never agreed at any moment to meet with the reporters, that they did not go to where he was, and that he never talked to them or saw them. To our surprise, we found Manuel Perez in La Uribe, together with FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] Commander Manuel Marulanda Velez, and EPL [Popular Liberation Army] Commander Francisco Caraballo. The account is very simple. He reiterated what I have just told you.

[Announcer] That means that there is important unity within the guerrilla coordinating board, as the FARC, ELN, and the dissident faction of the EPL sign their communiques.

[Leyva] Just imagine the three of them being there. It is true that we were there. I think that what must be done now is to report to the government what was discussed. But the news report by RCN is true. We did meet with Manuel Perez, who is in La Uribe.

[Announcer] Dr. Leyva, does Manuel Perez reject the possibility that this kidnapping may have been carried out by a dissident ELN faction?

[Leyva] Yes, apparently there is no dissident ELN wing. The truth is that nobody knows of anyone who has assumed the leadership of that dissident group or who is responsibile. I think we must rely on the facts we have or else we will be uselessly speculating.

[Announcer] Dr. Leyva, what did he say about the charge that the ELN is linked to drug traffickers?

[Leyva] He says that the ELN does not give inaccurate reports. He says that its actions agree with what it states. We discussed this matter at length. As for the attacks on oil pipelines, he said that they claim credit whenever they are responsible. As he said yesterday, the ELN does not lie. Of course, this is a statement that he has made. Once again, while there is no proof to the contrary, we cannot state something that is simply a hypothetical case. Therefore, one must be very careful. Even the rebels are careful in this regard. When it involves topics of this sort, unless the contrary is established, the information must be gathered and considered as true.

[Announcer] Regarding an interview that Mr. Tirofijo [Manuel Marulanda Velez] gave to the newspaper VOZ, he presents other options. First, the possibility of a political negotiation and second, the creation of a large revolutionary army of liberation. With Manuel Perez present in La Uribe, are they going to choose the first or the second alternative?

[Leyva] Well, you must recall that at La Uribe there is a direct line to the presidency. At times it is used, and at times it is not. But its mere presence is important and shows a willingness to talk. I think that by going all the way to La Uribe, Manuel Perez has made it clear that he is willing to talk. The important thing is that these talks be initiated and handled intelligently and with good judgment and that their outcome is useful for the nation. Yesterday the three commanders reiterated their willingness to join the national constituent assembly. They agreed that it is the government that has to examine their proposal. They told us that in two or three days they will make a proposal.

We have some information that we think will be useful to the media. Among other things, I must emphasize how Miguel Uribe has been behaving. He has displayed the loyalty of a gentleman. He has demonstrated that he has a strong personality. Yesterday he interviewed Manuel Perez. No doubt Diana de Turbay de Uribe would have made this interview. Perez asked that it be done as a tribute to his wife. I understand that Cripton will air the interview, as well as a report, this weekend.

[Announcer] Dr. Leyva, did the other groups that were present—the FARC, and Caraballo of the EPL—say the same thing? Do they know nothing about Diana Turbay, Francisco Santos, and Marina Montoya?

[Leyva] No, nothing. That is the information that we have. We tried to find out—without touching on topics that have been raised these days—if it may have been a splinter cell of the ELN. The impression is that that is not so. They were openly asked about possible links to drug trafficking. They deny it. They have always maintained that they consider that the nationals should not be extradited, without consideration of drug trafficking. That is the principle on which they based themselves during the talks. They claim to have no contact of any kind and that it has never been the policy of the ELN to have contacts with drug traffickers.

[Announcer] Thank you Dr. Leyva, for this scoop given to RCN.

[Leyva] Thank you.

Armed Men Kill 20 in Valle del Cauca Department

PA2609232590 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1758 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Report by Soraya Caicedo]

[Excerpts] This is the report that has shaken the country, especially western Colombia. The relative calm that existed in Valle del Cauca Department was broken last night, 25 September, with the massacre of 20 peasants. A cheerful sports event ended in a bloodbath when a group of criminals in uniform broke into the Villa de Legua farm and indiscriminately fired at people. Authorities are not clear about the motives for or the perpetrators of this crime. [passage omitted]

A group of men armed with rifles and shotguns and dressed in police uniforms arrived at the farm located in El Cabuyal Corregimiento, Candelaria Municipality,

southeastern Valle del Cauca Department. According to eyewitnesses, the men were driving a Trooper jeep and a (?Renault 21) and indiscriminately shot at the people. Their first victim was a woman who was standing in the entrance of the house. Later, at point-blank range, they murdered nine persons who were in the kitchen cooking the food that was to be eaten after the soccer match. Two others were killed in the corridors.

The players, among them El Pitillo Valencia and Libardo Perdigon, as well as the actual spectators at the match, were able to escape the massacre. However, four people, apparently farm workers, were killed on the playing field.

Leaving soccer uniforms and water cups for the players in disarray behind them, the murderers continued their massacre, setting up a roadblock on the road, stealing a van, and shooting and killing its driver and a passer-by. According to reports, they took several people with them in the vehicle. Even though the details of the incident are confusing, the authorities believe the motive for the massacre is retaliation by organized criminals. [passage omitted]

Peru

Defense Minister Views Armed Forces Situation

PY2609165090 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 9 Sep 90 pp 10-13

[Interview with Defense Minister General Jorge Torres Aciego by Mariella Balbi in Lima; date not given]

[Text] [Balbi] Gen. Torres, your speech to Congress on the scope of the antisubversive struggle was extremely short. Why?

[Torres] Because surely the congressmen were more interested in the economic measures.

[Balbi] The creation of a Unified Pacification Command [Comando Unificado de Pacificacion] was proposed in that speech. When will it be put into effect?

[Torres] We are making the appropriate adjustments right now. We have already visited the emergency zone with the joint command. We believe that in the next few days we will make other inspection visits to see "in situ" the actions of the components that we have in the field. Starting from there, we will continue improving things in accordance with reality to create a single command in charge of analyzing all of the problems in the emergency zones.

[Balbi] What functions or roles will this single command have?

[Torres] We are still outlining that. The important thing is that on the one hand, there will be a command exclusively for military matters. The three branches of the Armed Forces—the Army, Navy, and Air Force—will surely be included in that command, and they will conduct operations in the emergency zones. On the other hand, we are trying to give more responsibility to government officials who handle the nonmilitary matters. They will make up the Unified Pacification Command.

[Balbi] What type of officials are you referring to?

[Torres] The Unified Pacification Command will be made up of high-ranking civilian officials, such as prefects and regional presidents, so they can act in nonmilitary fields. In the appropriate district or province, the work will be carried out with the mayors, governors, and judges. We will try to reinstate those civilian officials in their appropriate places. All this is still under study. I am only giving you an idea of what we are planning.

[Balbi] Within those guidelines, what powers will the Unified Pacification Command have?

[Torres] To develop the antisubversive war, but in an overall manner...

[Balbi] Will it have decisionmaking power?

[Torres] Of course. That is what we want it to have, not just in the military sector but in all other fields of the set of national problems. We do not want the military to handle everything—we also want civilian officials to contribute to this task.

[Balbi] For instance, will the Unified Pacification Command decide where to invest and when a project should be carried out?

[Torres] Precisely.

[Balbi] Will they participate in preparation of the antisubversive strategy?

[Torres] The antisubversive strategy is prepared at the Joint Command by the military, but with their cooperation. We first prepare one at the national level and then others at the level of each emergency zone. There we will also expect the civilians decisive cooperation.

[Balbi] Do you feel that the emergency zones can be governed by civilians?

[Torres] I believe that in the emergency zones, where the military aspect is very important, we can remain for a prudent period of time until the civilian officials can assume their respective responsibilities. There will be no problem whatsoever...

[Balbi] When general? This has been going on for 11 years; the politico-military commands have been there for eight years...

[Torres] Yes, but it seems that there was no political decision before. That decision now exists.

[Balbi] Does it seem to you that now...?

[Torres] Yes, I think the government now has an interest in energetically eradicating subversion.

[Balbi] Will other politico-military commands be created?

[Torres] We are not planning to do so for the time being.

[Balbi] Tell me, each time the general in charge of an emergency zone is relieved, the strategy changes at the initiative of the new command. How will this problem be solved?

[Torres] The fact is that nothing will change because the officer who takes over a politico-military command will have worked there before he takes over. He will be acquainted with details of the mode of operation in that security zone, so taking over the politico-military command will be nothing new for that officer.

[Balbi] But there are differences in the way things have been done by General Arciniega, General Valdivia, and General Howard Rodriguez. The truth is that the strategies were different.

[Torres] The fact is that the strategy was no different, except for subtle twists and changes in routine. In this regard, each one has his personal approach. The main strategy is the same, only the personal characteristics of each commander are different. The plans are perfectly established in substance. Now, if to reach a point, one takes this direction and the other takes that road, well, the objective is still the same. Incidentally, one of the reasons for the annual relief is that a man cannot be on war duty permanently—only one year at the most. We have to establish a rotation system, taking into account that the scenarios are different.

[Balbi] Can you mention three or five goals you expect to attain by 1995? Do you have a medium-term antisubversive plan...?

[Torres] We expect that subversion will be largely eradicated in five years. We optimistically think so. But, I repeat that success will not be sought in the military field alone, but in nonmilitary areas as well. I am very satisfied to see that the need for this approach is realized by the people I talk with. Everybody has begun to understand that the antisubversive struggle must be carried out in the fields of agriculture, health, education, industry, transport, and road building. If all Peruvians participate—not delegating responsibility to the Armed Forces alone—I believe the results will be very good by 1995.

[Balbi] Do you have another goal, General?

[Torres] I think it would be a great achievement to eradicate subversion, which is a scourge that all of us want to defeat. If we can achieve this objective, we will be able to overcome other problems.

[Balbi] Can we expect a unified intelligence service?

[Torres] I do not know what are you talking about.

[Balbi] I am referring to the fact that it seems that the intelligence services lack coordination.

[Torres] I think you are wrong if you mean there is no coordination between our Armed Forces intelligence systems.

[Balbi] They are very jealous of the information they obtain. Apparently, they do not report the full information.

[Torres] Well, everybody is jealous. (He laughs) Aren't you jealous?

[Balbi] Are you jealous?

[Torres] I am tremendously jealous.

[Balbi] Then you confirm what I have said, General.

[Torres] Intelligence agents should be jealous when releasing information.

[Balbi] Do you confirm that cooperation prevails in the Armed Forces intelligence services?

[Torres] We maintain continuous talks. All of the Armed Forces intelligence services are concentrated in the Joint Command.

[Balbi] Do you think it is necessary for the National Intelligence Service [SIN] to tap telephones as has been occurring?

[Torres] I do not think it is appropriate or amusing to listen to other people's conversations. I do not think it is correct for an institution or a person to tap a telephone.

[Balbi] Some telephone conversations with the Joint Command were reportedly tapped. What do you think about this?

[Torres] It seems that SIN electronically scanned telephone calls and detected that the Joint Command's telephone conversations were tapped, but this occurred some months ago.

[Balbi] Do you know who tapped the phone calls?

[Torres] Nobody knows. We never know who taps phone calls. SIN alerted us to the situation, and told us to be careful.

[Balbi] Have you considered the possibility that SIN could have been tapping the Joint Command's phones?

[Torres] I cannot assure you, but I do not think so. I do not believe SIN could be involved in such insignificant things.

[Balbi] An investigation into the Armed Forces intelligence services was proposed to the Chamber of Deputies today. If this proposal is accepted, will you allow this investigation?

[Torres] There is nothing official, but this is a delicate matter. I think we should talk before making such a decision. Our intelligence services are very delicate institutions. They are very autonomous, important institutions that demand very special treatment. If there have been mistakes we should try to correct them. We cannot manage an intelligence organization like any other state-owned enterprise, because this could be dangerous.

[Balbi] Are charges being raised against Captain Montesinos in the Armed Forces?

[Torres] He has retired and does not have a problem with the Army. The Military Supreme Court is hearing his case.

[Balbi] Would it be convenient for him to work for SIN?

[Torres] I do not think it would be appropriate. As far as I know he is not discharging any duty.

[Balbi] Since charges have been leveled at General Edwin Diaz, should he resign?

[Torres] I believe the charges are exaggerated. I should wait for the results of the investigation before giving you an answer. SIN does not belong to the defense sector.

[Balbi] Should General Diaz resign to expedite the investigations?

[Torres] It is up to General Diaz to make this decision.

[Balbi] You have said that the new strategy will focus on strengthening links with the civilian sector. Many citizens in the Ayacucho zone, however, are scared because of the creation of the Antisubversive Liberation Movement [Movimiento de Liberacion Antisubversiva, MLA], which is a new paramilitary command that carries out activities with the concurrence of the authorities.

[Torres] That cannot be true. I do not believe it because first...

[Balbi] Sorry, General, but I have specific information.

[Torres] I will have to verify it. I am not aware of this.

[Balbi] But you listened to the Ayacucho congressmen when they reported in Congress that Huamanga University has been dynamited on several occasions. This university is very close to military units, and the streets are patrolled at night.

[Torres] We have heard several charges about this incident, but we have no proof. This is curious. I will order an investigation if I have proof that so-and-so is involved in the attack.

[Balbi] Don't you think it is suspicious that an explosive device is placed near military facilities when all the streets are being patrolled?

[Torres] Of course. Subversives carry out actions without any restrictions. It is very difficult to stop them.

[Balbi] However, it is said in Ayacucho that the police are involved in these attacks.

[Torres] I do not believe that. This is a trick by the terrorists who want us to have confrontations with the civilian sector. Terrorists seek the support of the people, whether they like it nor not.

[Balbi] Do you think the MLA is linked to the Shining Path terrorist organization?

[Torres] It may be linked to the Shining Path, the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement or other terrorist organizations.

[Balbi] When people threatened by this group ask the garrison for protection, they are told to go to the police who, in turn, tell them they do not have personnel.

[Torres] No, it depends on the type of protection.

[Balbi] General, this command has threatened the Huamanga University rector and deputy rector...

[Torres] It is up to the police to implement certain protective measures while others are the responsibility of the Armed Forces.

[Balbi] Two years ago I found proof that the CRF [Rodrigo Franco Command] conducted activities from an Ayacucho garrison. I wrote an article about it and they threatened me.

[Torres] Show me the article and the proof. How can I punish anyone without proof?

[Balbi] Proof of this is the case of Fidel Itusca, a driver for a mining enterprise, who was tortured at the Lucanas garrison...

[Torres] I do not have any proof in this case. I have ordered an investigation, but I do not have concrete proof so far...

[Balbi] You have photos showing that he was tortured.

[Torres] These are enough proof for you.

[Balbi] Do you think anybody could engage in such an adventure to smear the Armed Forces?

[Torres] This will be determined by the prosecutor.

[Balbi] General, as long as the Armed Forces do not positively contact the people, they will not support them and no victory will be obtained.

[Torres] Of course, this is the matter we are discussing.

[Balbi] To meet these objectives it is necessary to respect human rights, provide security, and forbid the activities of paramilitary groups.

[Torres] That is obvious. But I really do not think paramilitary groups can exist.

[Balbi] Nobody has been arrested since the paramilitary commands began their activities in Ayacucho four years ago.

[Torres] I blame the authorities for this negligence.

[Balbi] But the authorities are military men, General.

[Torres] That is exactly what we are trying to change.

[Balbi] Have you committed yourself to implementing a policy of full respect for human rights?

[Torres] I will be implacable. Anyone who violates human rights will be severely punished. I have already told the three general commanders.

[Balbi] Do you realize that this is not just a matter of humanity but of intelligence, since the Shining Path terrorist organization wants the Armed Forces to violate human rights?

[Torres] Of course. They want to create an atmosphere of hatred toward the military.

[Balbi] How can people cooperate with the Armed Forces, since most people in the emergency zones do not have much confidence in them?

[Torres] We should eliminate that distrust and try to create a more favorable situation so they can rely on us more. I will do everything possible to meet this objective.

[Balbi] What will you do in terms of nonmilitary actions, keeping in mind that the government lacks money?

[Torres] I believe that things can be done. The transport minister and I are outlining policies to reactivate our engineering battalions. We can build and maintain roads if we make use of our equipment and personnel.

[Balbi] Do you have money to repair that equipment?

[Torres] We have few resources at the Transport Ministry, but there are at least enough to get the equipment going again. Other countries that want to help us have also made commitments and promises. It is more feasible for us to build the roads because we can supply the necessary protection and because it is more economical than contracting a new company.

[Balbi] Will the curfew continue to be enforced in Huancayo?

[Torres] Yes. The political command has the freedom to request a curfew and a state of emergency as long as the problems continue. You have seen that the state of emergency has been lifted in several provinces. Lima and Callao are the only provinces under a state of emergency, while Arequipa, Chiclayo, Chimbote, and Puno are not.

[Balbi] Will General Arciniega return to the upper Huallaga?

[Torres] What do you think? Do you want him to return there?

[Balbi] Well, there is a favorable opinion of his duty...

[Torres] If you ask me to send Gen. Arciniega back there I will accept your request (laughs).

[Balbi] I do not believe that, General. I have to admit, however, that you do have a sense of humor. I asked you this question because many people said that he did a good job.

[Torres] Yes, all generals go there with the same mysticism and the same desire.

[Balbi] Then he will not return?

[Torres] He is working with us now. He is a very important adviser within the new strategy we are outlining.

[Balbi] Has the government signed the agreement with the United States for advisory and military aid?

[Torres] Not yet, but the government is very interested in reaching this accord.

[Balbi] Do you think this agreement is convenient for Peru?

[Torres] I do not think it will be incorrect. I do not think it inappropriate for the United States to want to cooperate with us with equipment and training as long as they do not meddle in our domestic affairs.

[Balbi] Wouldn't it be better to reach an agreement for the development of the upper Huallaga with the United States?

[Torres] We need parallel support for this development. They are interested in development, but that is not within my purview.

[Balbi] If there is an accord, how many troops will be trained?

[Torres] It will depend on the conditions of the accord. The program was designed to train 300 personnel.

[Balbi] A U.S. congressional committee has said that the U.S. Government cannot help Peru because of the corruption within the Armed Forces and police.

[Torres] I think that this is a sharp remark. They acted quite irresponsibly. The government issued a communique to clarify this situation and to reject those statements. They were strong, inappropriate, and untimely statements.

[Balbi] Will the United States build a new military base similar to that of Santa Lucia?

[Torres] I do not believe so. This is not contemplated in our equipment and building plan.

[Balbi] Do you dismiss the possibility of direct U.S. military operations in our country?

[Torres] Absolutely. I guarantee that it will not happen.

[Balbi] Are U.S. military instructors training Peruvian personnel in Mazamari or some other site in Peru?

[Torres] I am told that there were before, but they are not there now.

[Balbi] Will they come in the future?

[Torres] Well, if necessary. There is no problem with them cooperating with us, as long as they do not intervene directly.

[Balbi] General, will the creation of peasant patrols be encouraged as a means of fighting the Shining Path?

[Torres] That is an aspect that must be carefully considered. I believe the performance of the peasant patrols in recent years should be evaluated and, on the basis of that evaluation, appropriate suggestions made to the government for strengthening and improving peasant patrol actions, which seem very important.

[Balbi] Is it advisable to arm the peasant patrols?

[Torres] We would have to study this.

[Balbi] In the past 10 years why haven't we bought military equipment for low intensity conflicts, neither a communication system...?

[Torres] The economic situation may have prevented such purchases...

[Balbi] We have not been in a bad economic situation all that time.

[Torres] It seems that not much importance was attached to this war at the beginning. And when it was realized, it was a little late because the subversion had gained momentum. There was no idea of the type of weapons required.

[Balbi] How do you explain the fact that the Armed Forces have not been able to defeat the Shining Path in 10 years, letting it expand...?

[Torres] As for expanding, I do not believe it...

[Balbi] Ancash, Huancayo, Alto Huallaga are there to prove it...

[Torres] I can also be here today, in Arequipa tomorrow, and somewhere else after tomorrow, giving the impression that I am all over the country. In fact, the Shining Path is made up of small roving groups. They move around a lot, but do not expand. They did not succeed in stopping municipal elections or the two presidential rounds. The Shining Path thought it could take control of the country, but it could not. I would rather ask you to mention the advances made by the subversives.

[Balbi] But why couldn't the Armed Forces pin down the Shining Path, restrict its mobility...?

[Torres] They could not because the problem is not just a military problem, but was approached as though it was just a military problem. We are driving this idea home. We will give more importance to the nonmilitary aspects, which were previously neglected.

[Balbi] What is your opinion of rumors that the Armed Forces are monopolizing government positions?

[Torres] There is no monopoly. The appointment of an Army member as Defense Minister is normal. Now, a military officer has been appointed Interior Minister. Is this cause for eyebrows to be raised...?

[Balbi] The interior deputy minister is also a military man as well as the person in charge of intelligence and the secretary...

[Torres] We, military men, have cooperated with different governments. A Navy officer was interior minister in the previous government.

[Balbi] But he was retired.

[Torres] It is the same. General Alvarado will retire in three months. He is familiarizing himself with the position in order to stay on.

[Balbi] And the officers accompanying him?

[Torres] Well, he wants to have a few of his trusted aides with him. I have also brought some of my people with me to the Defense Ministry. The presence of three or four military men does not mean militarization.

[Balbi] Should the police be subordinate to the Armed Forces?

[Torres] Not at all.

[Balbi] Should the police have helicopters or sophisticated weapons?

[Torres] Yes, that would be convenient. But they should not exaggerate or compare themselves to the Armed Forces. The present situation calls for more sophisticated weapons.

[Balbi] Rear Admiral Panizo was dismissed from Navy General Headquarters, and he will be tried by a military court. Why?

[Torres] I would appreciate it if you ask the Supreme Council of Military Justice that question.

[Balbi] But you requested an inquiry.

[Torres] I have not requested any inquiry. You can read that at the Supreme Council.

[Balbi] You cannot tell us what you know?

[Torres] I cannot tell you what I do not know. (He laughs.)

[Balbi] Other military institutions have introduced changes while the Army has not. Why?

[Torres] There have been changes. The second region commander is working with me.

[Balbi] General, these changes are very small compared to those introduced in the Navy or Air Force.

[Torres] That was a decision of the Armed Forces supreme commander.

[Balbi] Is he more accommodating to the Army?

[Torres] It is not that. It is his prerogative to select his closest aides.

[Balbi] How much does an Army general earn?

[Torres] Around 90 million intis.

[Balbi] A decree was signed raising generals' salaries to a level equal to 70 percent of that of a senator. When will this decree become effective?

[Torres] The issue is still under study. A decision will be made in the next few days. The economy minister will review the availability of funds, and then the government will decide.

[Balbi] Generals receive 200 gallons of gasoline a month. Will the government review this quota in view of the urgent need for fiscal austerity?

[Torres] There is a great deal of speculation about that. We are studying the possibility of renouncing the benefit, but through our own choice. This has been an acquired

right since 1976. The amount seems large with the new gasoline price increase. We will definitely have to make an adjustment.

[Balbi] Are you aware that gasoline quotas end up being sold to private individuals?

[Torres] It is possible. We will review that.

[Balbi] You were in charge of the Taxing Superintendency during the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] government. Do you feel you were productive?

[Torres] I took over the superintendency with a great deal of enthusiasm and the best intentions of serving. I wanted to change the way it operated because it does not have a good computer system. Unfortunately, I could not get the necessary funds because of the fiscal deficit. I worked there for over seven months. I felt frustrated because I could not do what I wanted to do; therefore, I resigned. I was very sorry because I really wanted to do something there.

[Balbi] What is your opinion of the APRA government?

[Torres] It had its good and bad aspects.

[Balbi] What were the bad aspects?

[Torres] I do not want to talk about that.

[Balbi] General, you are a good military man.

[Torres] It is not that. It would be unethical to say good or bad things about a government of which I was a member.

Army Kills 10 Terrorists in Tingo Maria

PY2509190190 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 19 Sep 90 p 23

[Text] Tingo Maria, 18 Sep (LA REPUBLICA)—A new terrorist uprising has shaken the area of Tingo Maria, which is considered a "red" zone as a result of the frequent clashes there between combined Army and Police forces and columns of Shining Path terrorists.

Army forces have killed 10 terrorists, including two high-ranking Shining Path leaders, in clashes that occurred in the townships of Primavera and Bolognesi.

The two terrorist leaders are apparently closely linked to Comrade "India," who was arrested today by the police in a local hospital while she was being treated for deep bullet wounds that she sustained during a clash with Army forces.

A column of subversives have also entered the township of Rio Azul, in the Herminio Valdizan district, some 35 km from Tingo Maria. After giving indoctrination lectures to schoolchildren, the terrorists destroyed the main educational centers, community buildings, and the only medical post operating in the area.

These armed clashes occurred in the townships of Primavera, in the Aucayacu district, on the left bank of the Huallaga River some 56 km from Tingo Maria; and in Bolognesi, in the same district but on the right bank of the river, on the road to Pucayacu.

In these two clashes, Army personnel repelled the terrorists, killing 10 of them, including two high-ranking leaders.

Comrades "Coco" and "Engineer" apparently had orders to carry out another terrorist uprising in this city. It has been learned that for this reason they maintained close contacts with Comrade "India," who was recently arrested by the police.

Residents from that area have reported in Tingo Maria that the Army has killed about 10 terrorists, but there is still the possibility that the number of terrorist casualties could be higher.

Shining Path Terrorists Kill Five, Kidnap Three

PY2609160590 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2243 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] Huancayo, (Peru), 25 Sep (EFE)—National Police sources in this Andean province today reported that alleged Shining Path terrorists have killed five people and kidnapped another three to force them to join their ranks. The incident occurred this past weekend in Huancayo, 315 km east of Lima.

Bodies bearing bullet wounds and signs of torture were found on 23 September on the outskirts of Huancayo, the most important city in the central mountain range. Shining Path terrorists have been carrying out activities in Huancayo for three years. The police reported that the victims were businessmen who were indirectly linked to the security forces, which may have prompted the terrorists to kill them.

On 22 September alleged Shining Path terrorists attacked the homes of three youths, forced them into a vehicle, and told their relatives that the youths were joining their ranks. Shining Path commandos occasionally kidnap youths in the Andean and jungle areas to bolster their armed struggle.

According to the police, Shining Path terrorists have killed at least 21,000 people and caused damage estimated at approximately $18 billion since they began their armed struggle in 1980.

Army Patrol Kills 15 Terrorists in Tocache

PY2509231790 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Sep 90

[Text] An Army patrol killed 15 terrorists during a heavy armed confrontation in the past few hours in Tocache. One soldier was wounded during the skirmish.

According to reports from the zone, a Shining Path column was surprised as it was about to attack a location in the forest. During the attack the Army patrol seized 210 powerful grenades, 500 dynamite sticks, and a large quantity of weapons and ammunition.

Moreover, terrorists have killed several people in (San Juan de Pinacas), Ayacucho Department. After overpowering the night patrol, the terrorists attacked the village and murdered five members of the local civilian defense committee and wounded several other men and women. This incursion took place at 2330 last night.

24 Terrorists Killed in Clashes in Leoncio Prado

PY2609192390 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1611 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Lima, 26 Sep (EFE)—The Army Staff issued a communique today stating that 24 terrorists were killed in three clashes with the Army in Leoncio Prado Province.

The communique states that on 23 September a military patrol killed eight rebels and recovered the guns they abandoned. The communique also notes that two other clashes occurred on 24 September; 10 terrorists were killed near Merced de Logros and seven others were killed near Venenillo.

The communique finally states that no members of the patrols involved in these clashes suffered any casualties.

Uruguay

Government Terms Free Oil Offer 'Unacceptable'

PY2609233490 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 15 Sep 90 p 8

[Text] The government has rejected Iraq's offer of free oil because it believes that from a legal point of view, the offer "is absolutely and rationally unacceptable" and contradicts the UN resolution establishing an economic embargo on Iraq.

This announcement was made by the Foreign Ministry, which also pointed out the "Uruguayan Government's commitment to strictly respecting the decreed embargo and blockade, despite the economic damages these measures imply."

The Foreign Ministry also disclosed that the Iraqi Government has not made an official offer and that Uruguay "only learned about it through the media."

Moreover, the Foreign Ministry noted "the important role played by the United Nations in the Persian Gulf crisis, [no closing quotation mark as received] and pointed out that "it is necessary to strengthen the role" of this international organization.

Publication of Weekly Temporarily Suspended

PY2709010090 Montevideo BUSQUEDA in Spanish 20-26 Sep p 12

[Text] Publication of the weekly DISCULPE, which is sponsored by the "Cruzada 94" faction led by Senator Pablo Millor, "has been temporarily suspended due to financial problems", its director Hugo Ferrari told BUSQUEDA.

Ferrari said that the costs of DISCULPE were "very high," and the publication, which began in 1987, had practically no official publicity.

Guyana

Hoyte To Invite Carter Election Observer Team

FL2609184590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1730 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Sept 26, CANA—Guyana's opposition leader Cheddi Jagan says President Desmond Hoyte's decision to invite the Carter Centre to observe forthcoming elections here is a partial victory for pro-democracy forces inside and outside of Guyana.

"It vindicates our firm belief in uncompromising struggle and varied pressures as the sure instrument that would eventually make the government buckle," Dr. Jagan told reporters on Tuesday.

The office of the president announced here Monday that Dr. Jagan and Hoyte had agreed that former United States president, Jimmy Carter, would be invited to send an observer mission to monitor the elections, expected by next March.

Working People's Alliance (WPA) member of Parliament, Eusi Kwayana, also welcomed the agreement but said an adequate number of observers was needed. Opposition parties here contend that close to 2,000 overseas observers are needed to effectively monitor the elections. President Hoyte initially issued an invitation to the Commonwealth secretary-general to mount a Commonwealth observer mission to the elections.

Dr. Jagan said: "While we are still a far way from conditions that would guarantee free and fair elections and a political atmosphere that is democratic, we are heartened that the president moved away from his previous position that foreign observers were meddlers and outsiders."

Jagan said he told Hoyte on Monday that Guyanese would welcome the agreement to invite Carter, but that his People's Progressive Party [PPP] still insisted on the removal of restrictions on official observer missions from the United Nations, the Organisation of American States, the European Parliament, and others.

He also restated demands for the replacement of Sir Harold Bollers as chairman of the elections commission; the reconstitution of the commission; the preparation of a new voters' list; and a preliminary count of ballots at the place of poll. He said the PPP was concerned the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) was likely to pad the voters' lists in the expectation that the opposition parties will be unable to adequately scrutinize all of them—especially those from the far-flung parts of the country.

Jagan said since his meeting with Hoyte Monday, he had written him also suggesting that observer missions' terms of reference should not prevent them from examining

existing election laws, regulations and machinery, and making representation to the government and the elections commission for changes.

"This is absolutely essential. Observers should not just come here and monitor the elections but should be able to come before the elections, as they did in Nicaragua and other places, and examine the laws and the process, and recommend changes to ensure that the elections are fair," Dr. Jagan said.

He said he was satisfied Guyana had the capacity to host a large number of observers for many citizens would be willing to make their homes and other facilities available for use by the observers.

Address Postponed for 24 Hours

FL2609221490 Bridgetown CANA in English 2157 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Sept 26, CANA—A national address scheduled for Wednesday night by President Desmond Hoyte has been postponed for 24 hours due to "technical difficulties," the Guyana Public Communications Agency (GPCA) said Wednesday.

The broadcast was expected to deal with electoral issues amid preparations here for general elections by next March. The broadcast was rescheduled for 20:00 hrs Thursday.

GPCA did not give the nature of the technical difficulties.

Hoyte was scheduled to speak on the issue of election observers, including his recent decision to invite the Carter Centre in the United States to send an observer mission and an agreement between himself and opposition leader Dr. Cheddi Jagan to draft an electoral accord to ensure a peaceful campaign.

Agreement Reached on Restructuring Sugar Industry

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[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Sept 26, CANA—The Guyana Government and two British companies, Booker PLC and Booker Tate, have concluded an agreement related to the restructuring of the state-owned sugar industry, the Ministry of Planning and Development announced on Wednesday. Under the deal, Booker, which operated the sugar industry until its assets were nationalized in 1976, will be contracted to manage the industry. Booker will also assist in the preparation of a long term investment plan for the industry, a key foreign exchange earner here.

"This plan will be the basis on which a new company, as a successor entity to the Guyana Sugar Corporation (Guysuco), will be formed as a private joint venture company during 1991 with the Government of Guyana and Booker PLC as its initial equity holders," the Planning and Development Ministry statement said. Later, sugar employees and other domestic and foreign parties will be allowed equity participation in the proposed joint venture company.

The statement said financing arrangements to support both the management contract and the investment plan were being finalised so that both arrangements could commence as quickly as possible. Guysuco, meanwhile, will begin to put in place arrangements for the arrival of the initial complement of about 15 Booker Tate personnel who will be required full time during the first year of operation of the management agreement. In addition, during the transition period to the new joint venture company, a new board of directors will be established to supervise Guysuco's affairs.

The Ministry of Planning and Development gave no indication as to the cost of the management contract, where and how funds were being raised to finance the investment programme, and the proposed levels of equity participation. The statement also said nothing concerning increased wages for sugar workers, the government's approach to the sugar levy which sugar unions said should be scrapped or reduced considerably, and the future of Guysuco's diversification programme which embraces a range of fledgling projects, including cheese, butter, and rice production.

The government team at the talks which concluded on Tuesday, was headed by deputy prime minister responsible for planning and development, Haslyn Parris. The Booker PLC team was led by Sir Michael Cain, chairman of Booker PLC and of Booker Tate. Talks between the government and Booker began a year ago.

Booker McConnell's extensive holdings here were nationalised in 1976. Since then, the sugar industry's annual production has dropped by about half and now stands at about 160,000 long tons per annum. Through the "stategic alliance" being forged with Bookers, the government said it was hoping new technology and improved management would be injected into the industry to raise annual production to about 250,000 tons per annum. Sources close to the industry said about 30 million U.S. dollars per annum would be needed over the next three years to put the industry back on a firm footing.